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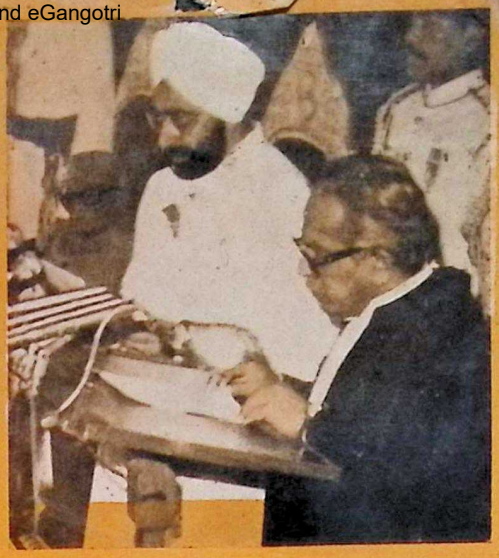
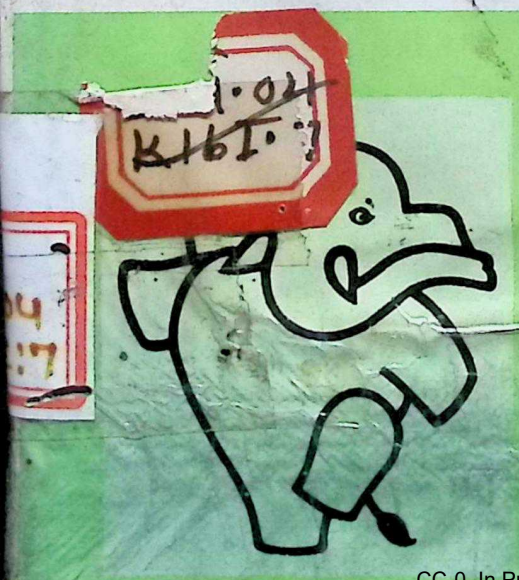


India since Independence

Chronology of Events

1982 VIMLA KAUL VOL. 7



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Chronology of Events India Since Independence

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On 15 August 1947 the tricolour banner of independent India was hoisted over the ramparts of the ancient Red Fort in Delhi. That day marked the beginning of the country's journey to rediscover itself. The history of free India is crowded with events of achievements and failures in every walk of life. Planners, executives, statesmen, research scholars, students, teachers, journalists and many other look round for correct date of an important—some times not important event which is just not available easily.

INDIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE is published with the object of providing handy reference to the chronology of events in the country. These volumes of the compilation, the first covering the events from August 15, 1947 to December 31, 1966 the second covering the decade 1967-77 and the third fourth, fifth and sixth covering the events of 1978, 1979, 1980 and 1981 respectively have already been published. The seventh volume contains a descriptive chronology of national events of the year 1982. The events given in these volumes are based on press reports. A consolidated index to each volume has been provided to add to its utility.

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पुस्तकालय

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पुस्तक-वितरण की तिथि नीचे अंकित है। इस तिथि सहित २० वें दिन तक यह पुस्तक पुस्तकालय में वापिस आ जानी चाहिए। अन्यथा १० पैसे के हिसाब से विलम्ब-दण्ड लगेगा।

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INDIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE
CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Volume 7 : 1982

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INDIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE
CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

पुस्तकालय
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Volume 7 : 1982

Mrs. VIMLA KAUL
Daulat Ram College,
University of Delhi, Delhi

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PREFACE

India Since Independence is published with the object of providing handy reference to the chronology of events in the country. These volumes of the compilation, the first covering the events from August 15, 1947 to December 31, 1966, the second covering the decade 1967-77, and the third, fourth, fifth and sixth covering the events of 1978, 1979, 1980 and 1981 respectively have already been published. The seventh volume contains a descriptive chronology of events of the year 1982. The events given in these volumes are based on press reports.

A comprehensive index has been provided to add to its utility.

New Delhi
December, 1984

(Mrs) Vimla Kaul

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1982

January 1 Four agitationists were killed and a score injured in police firing — one in Nowgong and the others in Darrang district as the 36 hour "rasta roko" stir ended amids alarming reports of confrontation between the security forces escorting the road transport services in the Brahamputra Valley (Assam) and agitationists. On 2nd January, defying prohibitory orders, a huge silent procession was taken out within the University area, near Gauhati to mourn the death of seven persons in police firing during the 36 hour road blockade which ended yesterday.

— Four unidentified persons looted the State Bank of India branch in Ambala city of rupeess five lakhs.

— Krishnarao Deshpande, freedom fighter and senior Marathi journalist, died. He was 70.

— A new group insurance scheme for Central Government employees came into force. According to an official release, the rate of subscription under the new scheme shall be Rs. 10, Rs. 20, Rs. 40 and Rs. 80 per month for group "D", Group "C", group "B" and group "A" employees respectively. The subscription shall be partly credited to an insurance fund and partly to a savings fund. From the insurance fund, payment will be made for an insurance cover of Rs. 10,000, Rs. 20,000, Rs. 40,000 and Rs. 80,000 to the families of group "D", group "C", group "B" and group "A" employees respectively, if they die due to any cause while in service.

— Six persons were killed and 14 received severe injuries when a passenger train rammed into a truck carrying vegetables at a manned railway crossing near Hafizpur, about 35 km from Bulandshahr.

2 Abdul Gani Khan (60), MLA, died of heart attack in Jammu. He was elected to the Assembly on the

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National Conference ticket from Doru Constituency in Anatnag district (Jammu and Kashmir).

January 2 D. Rajagopal (62), MLA, died in Bangalore after a heart attack. A veteran Trade Union leader, Rajagopal had been a Member of the Karnataka Legislative Council since 1964.

— Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, agricultural scientist and a member of the Planning Commission, has taken over as independent Chairman of the Council of FAO. He was elected last month to the top post of the Council which regulates the activities of FAO.

— Dwarika Prasad Tiwari (Vipra), Hindi poet and litterateur of Chhattisgarh region, died. He was 74.

— Film actor David Abraham, 73, died following a heart attack in Toronto (Canada). A bachelor, David left India for good and settled in Canada, a couple of years ago. Born on June 1, 1908, David was an actor, sportsman and compere, all rolled into one and was an institution by himself.

3 The noted Kashmiri singer and musician, Ustad Mohammad Abdullah Tibatbaqal, died. He was 68.

— Shashi Menon became national Lawn Tennis Champion for the second time beating Nandan Bal 7-6, 6-3, 6-7, 7-6. Anu Peshwaria was the new women's Champion.

4 C. Ramachandra, veteran music director, died. He was 62.

— The European Common Market Commission announced a grant of $ 47 million for farming in India.

— Former Speaker of Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, A.G. Kher, died in Lucknow after a protracted illness.

— Mrs. Vijaya Rajagopalan, former national table tennis Champion and wife of A. Rajagopalan, retired Chairman of the General Insurance Corporation, died. She was 60. She was India's captain in the World Championship in Bombay in 1952.

6 Nawab Ahmed Sayed Khan of Chattari, Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University, passed away. He was the first Indian Governor of the United Provinces during the British rule and also Prime Minister of the then Hyderabad State during the regime of Nawab Usman Ali Khan.

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January 7 Normal life in the Greater Gauhati Municipal Corporation area remained paralysed as the 12 hour bandh called by AASU and AAGSP affected Assam's transport and commercial establishments.

8 Names of Arjuna award winners for 1980 were announced. They were : Ramesh Krishnan (Tennis), Chetan Chauhan (Cricket), Syed Kirmani (Cricket), Sayed Modi (Badminton), Rohini Khadilkar (Chess), Mohammed Shahid (Hockey), Manjit Dua (Table Tennis), Gopal Saini (Athlectics), N.I. Ambaldar (Boxing), Mohammed Habib (Football), Mrs. Eliza Nelson (Hockey), Shankram Jadhav (Kabadi) and Jagminder Singh (Wrestling).

9 Brij Mohan Birla, a pioneering industrialist and Chairman of Hindustan Motors, died. He was 78.

— Mrs. Anwara Taimur, leader of the Assam Congress (I) Legislature Party, resigned and her resignation has been accepted by the Congress (I) high command.

10 Bomb explosions, damage to railway tracks and attempts to board trains and Government buses without tickets marked the start of the 96 hour civil disobedience movement in Assam. About 500 people, including 75 women, were arrested in various places.

— Sudhin Dasgupta, Music Director of about 60 films and a Composer, died. He was 52

11 A 21 member Indian Scientific Team, headed by Dr. S.Z. Qasim, Department of Environment, has landed in Antartica. During its stay on the icy continent, the team will carry out experiments in glaciology, geology, geomagnetism and meteorology and make oceanographic studies.

— India beat the USSR 5-1 to earn the fifth place in the fifth World Cup Hockey tournament held in Bombay.

12 The Bombay High Court held as justified the allegations against Chief Minister of Maharashtra, A.R. Antulay, about alloting cement in consideration of donations to the two trusts he had started. Delivering his judgement in a writ petition filed by Mrinal Gore, P.B. Samant and others, Jutice B. Lentin rejected the hypothesis of "mistakes" made by the State Governments and held that the charge of arbitrariness against the Chief Minister is justified as the nexus between allocation of cement of certain builders and the donations to the trusts is justified. Later, Chief Min

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same but requested him to continue in office until alternative arrangements are made. External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narashimha Rao, who has been dealing with Maharashtra on behalf of Congress (I) high command has been nominated to supervise the election of the new leader of the State Legislature Party.

January 12 Fourteen persons were killed and 19 injured when a bus of the nationalised Sikkim transport rolled into a ditch.

— Kumar Kalika Singh, a Congress (I) MLA from Jabalpur Constituency (Bihar), died. He was 63.

— The veteran CPM leader and a Member of the Lok Sabha from Diamond Harbour in West Bengal, Jyotirmoy Basu, 58, died of heart attack in Jaipur, where he had gone to attend a meeting of the Railway Convention Committee.

13 Accepting the recommendations of the Jitendra Narayan Commission, Bihar Cabinet decided to initiate legal proceedings against those found directly responsible for the 1979 riots at Jamshedpur. It also decided to stop Government aid to institutions run by RSS, Anand Marg, Jamat-e-Islami and other communal organisations and to create special cells in sensitive districts to settle disputes likely to rouse communal tensions.

— Under an agreement signed by R.N. Malhotra, Secretary in the Economic Affairs Department and Eikichi Hara, Japanese Ambassador in India, Japan will extend a credit of Rs. 43.86 crores to India.

— Mukandilal, freedom fighter and former Speaker of Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, died at Bareilly hospital. He was 95.

— President's rule in Assam was revoked and Congress (I) Ministry led by Keshab Chandra Gogoi was sworn in.

14 Ganpat Rai, a dedicated social worker and freedom fighter, died. He was 72.

15 Devi Lal and Biju Patnaik resigned from the Lok Dal National Executive in protest against the Party President Charan Singh's bid to "stifile inner Party democracy". Biju Patnaik also resigned from the Parliamentary Board of the Party.

— Noted biographer Pandurang Baliba Salunkhe, MLC, died of cancer at the Karnataka Health Institute

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hospital at Ghatprabha in Belgaum district. He was 68.

January 15 Prime Minister Indira Gandhi carried out a major reshuffle and expansion in the Union Council of Ministers, affecting the portfolios of five Cabinet Ministers, eight Ministers of State and five Deputy Ministers. The strength of the Central Council of Ministers has also been raised to 55 as against 48 earlier. The list of the Union Council of Ministers after today's reshuffle and expansion is as follows: *Cabinet Ministers* (19): Indira Gandhi—Atomic Energy. Space, Science and Technology; R. Venkataraman—Defence; Pranab Kumar Mukherji—Finance P.V. Narasimha Rao —External Affairs; Zail Singh—Home; C.M. Stephen—Communications; A.B.A. Ghani Khan Chaudhuri—Energy; S.B. Chavan—Planning; Kedar Pandey—Irrigation; Veerendra Patil—Shipping and Transport; Vasant Sathe—Information and Broadcasting; P.C. Sethi—Railways; P. Shiv Shankar—Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers; B. Shankaranand—Health and Family Welfare; A.P. Sharma—Tourism and Civil Aviation; Bhisma Narain Singh—Parliamentary Affairs and Works and Housing; Rao Birendra Singh—Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction ; N.D. Tiwari — Industry, Steel and Mines ; Jagannath Kaushal — Law, Justice and Company Affairs *Ministers of State* (21) : Z.R. Ansari — Irrigation ; Bhagwat Jha Azad — Labour (Independent charge); Dr. Charanjit Chanana — Industry, Steel and Mines ; R.V. Swaminathan—Agriculture; Nihar Ranjan Laskar—Home Affairs ; P. Venkattasubbaiah — Home and Parliamentary Affairs ; Yogendra Makwana — Communications ; C.K. Jaffer Shariff — Railways ; C.P.N. Singh — Science and Technology ; Sitaram Kesri — Shipping and Transport ; Khurshid Alam Khan — Tourism and Civil Aviation ; Dalbir Singh — Peteroleum and Chemicals ; Buta Singh — Supply and Rehabilitation (Independent charge) ; Vikram Mahajan — Energy ; Ram Dulari Sinha — Indusry; Sheila Kaul — Education ; S.S. Sisodia — Revenue and Expenditure ; Sivaraj Patil — Commerce ; Baleshwar Ram — Agriculture ; Gargi Shankar Mishra — Department of Coal in the Ministry of Energy ; A.A. Rahim — Law, Justice and Company Affairs. *Deputy Ministers* (15) : M.S. Sanjivi Rao — Department of Electronics ; K.P. Singh Devo — Defence ; Janaradhan Pujari — Finance ; Kalpanath Rai — Parliamentary Affairs ; Arif Mohammad Khan — Information and Broadcasting ; Giridhar Gomango — Supply and Rehabilitation ; Dharamvir — Labour ; Mallikarjun—Railway and Department of Parliamentary Affairs ; Mohammad Usman Arif — Agriculture and Civil Supplies ; Vijay N. Patil — Communications ; P.K. Thungon — Education ; Brajmohan Mohanti —

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Works and Housing; Kumudben Joshi — Health; Kamla Kumari — Agriculture; P.A. Sangama — Commerce.

January 16 Dr. (Mrs.) Leela Golaknath (70), well known Psychiatrist, died in Amritsar.

— M.L. Sukhadia, M.P., who was presiding over the Committee looking into the implications of replacing sales tax by excise duty on a range of items like vanaspati, drugs and petroleum, has been given the rank of a Cabinet Minister.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has appointed Defence Minister, R. Venkataraman, as a Member of the Planning Commission. He was hitherto a member of the Commission in his capacity as Finance Minister. Finance Minister, Pranab Kumar Mekherjee, also became an ex-officio member of the Commission.

17 Durga Mohan Bhattacharjee, veteran journalist of Calcutta, died. He was 84.

18 The fifth cricket test between India and England ended in a draw at Madras.

— The first combined meeting of the Government, Opposition leaders and Assam agitation leaders began in New Delhi and several proposals to seal Assam's border with Bangladesh were discussed. The meeting was attended by Home Minister Zail Singh, two Ministers of State for Home P. Venkatasubbiah and N.R. Laskar, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Bhishma Narain Singh and Law Minister Jagannath Kaushal. The Opposition leaders were Ravindra Varma (Janata), Bhola Paswan Shastri (Congress - S), A.B. Vajpayee (BJP), Inderjit Gupta (CPI) and Harikrishna Singh Surjeet (CPI - M). The Lok Dal was not represented. Lok Dal President, Charan Singh had earlier said he would not participate in the talks in view of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's attitude towards Opposition unity. On 20th January the leaders of the Assam agitation and Government representatives reached an agreement at New Delhi at the combined meeting on the foreigner's issue on sealing Assam — Bangladesh border against future infiltration. According to the agreement, physical barriers, including masonry walls, barbed wire fencing and other obstacles will be erected all along the international border. A road will be constructed parallel to the border and the land between the border and the road will be treated as a zone free of human habitation. Patrolling by security forces on land and riverine routes along the international

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border will be intensified and the number of checkposts increased. After the agreement, talks were adjourned till February 8, without making any progress on the basic formula for detection of "foreign nationals".

January 18 India signed an international agreement governing the activities of States on the moon and other celestial bodies. The agreement, which had been adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 5, 1979, was signed by Ambassador N. Krishnan. India also acceded to the convention on registration of objects launched into outer space. The convention has been adopted by the Assembly on November 12, 1974.

— The noted novelist, R.K. Narayan, was made an honorary member of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters.

— Reigning Champion Syed Modi of the Railways retained the men's single crown in the National Badminton Championship at Udyogammandal, beating Maharashtra's Uday Pawar. Madhumita Gowswami, also of Railways, upset title holder Ami Ghia 11-4, 11-4 to claim the women's singles title.

— Union Minister for Communications, C.M. Stephen, inagurated the Rs. 4 crore Microwave link between India and Sri Lanka which will herald a more efficient and reliable communication system between the two countries.

19 Baba Saheb Anantrao Bhonsle, former Law Minister in Antulay Cabinet, was chosen by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in consultation with the members of the Central Parliamentary Board, as the new Chief Minister of Maharashtra Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was authorised by the State Congress (I) Legislature Party to name the new leader. Mr. Bhonsle was swornin on 20th January and the new Maharashtra Ministry was swornin on 25th January.

— The one day country wide strike by eight central trade unions controlled by Opposition Political Parties received partial response. The strike left 212 persons dead and several injured in isolated incidents of violence and police firing in four states. Union Labour Ministry sources said that out of 19 million people in organised industry and services, only four million went on strike while the National Compaign Committee of the trade unions, which directed the strike, claimed that 12 million workers had taken part in it.

20 The 21 member Indian expedition to the Antarctica has set up a solar panel and an automatic data weather

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collecting system, about 90 km inland from the shore. Official sources, said that the area has been named "Dakshni Gangotri".

January 20 The Central Government banned the Mizo National Front (MNF) led by Laldenga and other bodies, including the Mizo National Army, for carrying on secessionist activities. The Government declared the MNF as unlawful body through a notification issued under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. On 21st January over a hundred leading members and supporters of the Mizo National Front were arrested in and around Aizwal.

— India will supply 200,000 tonnes of rice to the Soviet Union in return for crude oil under agreement signed in New Delhi.

— K. Venkataramiah, Congress (I) Member of the Karnataka Assembly, died. He was 69.

— The Supreme Court directed the execution of Billa and Ranga for the murder of two Chopra Children — Geeta and Sanjay after rejecting their mercy petitions by the President. Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud, Justice A.P. Sen and Justice C. Chinnappa Reddy declared that this is not the appropriate case in which to decide the issue of the guidelines, if any, which controlled the power of President to commute a sentence of death awarded by a court into a lesser sentence.

21 Balakbhai Mehta, popularly known as "Khandesh Gandhi", died at Sewagram medical college. He was 92.

— Chief Minister of Punjab, Darbara Singh, escaped an attempt on his life when a Sikh youth pounced on him and hit him on the neck at Panchhata village near Jullunder. The assailant, identified as Iqbal Singh of Hoshiarpur district tried to take out a sharp edged weapon but was overpowered by policemen and the public.

— Former Minister of State for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Chandulal Chandrakar, replaced S.S. Mahapatra as one of the AICC (I) General Secretaries, according to an announcement made by G.K. Moopnar, Party General Secretary.

— Industrial Development Bank of India made an entry into the Euro-currency market with a loan of $ 25 million. The agreement for the loan was signed between IDBI and a syndicate of banks led by

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Lloyds Bank International and the State Bank of India.

January 22 A.B. Ananthakrishnan, a leading industrialist and former Sheriff of Madras, died after a heart attack. He was 59.

— Addressing a news conference at the end of his five day visit to India, World Bank President, A.W. Clausen, said that India's development is commendable, but not perfect. India has a long way to go before it could graduate into an exclusive World Bank assistance recipient,

— Fourteen members of the Council of Ministers in Assam, headed by Congress (I) Chief Minister, Keshab Chandra Gogi were sworn in and the Ministers were allotted the portfolios.

— The Indo-Bangladesh talks on re-negotiating the inland water transit and trade protocol ended inconclusively at New Delhi with certain issues yet to be sorted out.

— Sant Sewa Singh, an octogenarian saint, revered by both Sikhs and Hindus died at Gurudwara Vabour Sahib in Nangal.

— U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has approved a loan assistance of $ 35 million for 19 medium irrigation projects in Rajasthan.

— Yamuna Prasad Mandal, former Member of Parliament from Bihar, died. He was 68.

23 Additional Session Judge (Delhi), M.K. Chawla, signed the black warrants for condemned criminals Billa and Ranga to be executed on January 31 at 8 a.m.

— On the occasion of the 85th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, President Sanjiva Reddy laid the foundation stone for a new south centre complex of Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports at Bangalore.

— Ragini Devi, classical Indian dancer of the early 1920s and mother of Indrani Rehman, died in New York. Ragini Devi, 85, was born to American parents and her maiden name was Esther. She migrated to India when she was young and learnt and later performed Bharata Natyam and Kathakali. She married Ramlal Bajpai and made India her home.

— Ranjit Mahanti was elected unanimously as Chairman

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of the Bar Council of India, the apex body representing all the advocates throughout the country

January 24 Francis Blanchard, Director General of the ILO, arrived in New Delhi on a six day official visit to India.

25 Major Jaipal Singh, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), died in Vijaywada after a massive heart attack. He was 65.

— The Posts and Telegraph Department issued two more stamps in the definitive series. The 10 paise stamp was on minor irrigation and the 50 paise stamp on dairying.

— Republic Day awards were announced, Mira Behn, daughter of a British Admiral, who opted for a life of austerity with Mahatma Gandhi, has been named for "Padma Vibhushan" award. She is the only person to be awarded this award this year. Rani Gaidiuliu, famed tribal queen of Manipur, known for her social work was among the fifteen honoured with "Padma Bhushan", "Padma Shri" was conferred on 31 men and women, among whom figured Prakash Padukone, world badminton champion and the cricketers Kapil Dev and Syed M.H. Kirmani. The list of awardees was as follows : — Padma Vibhushan—Miss Mira Behn, Padam Bhushan — Dr. Atam Prakash, (Surgeon, New Delhi), Dr. Ajit Ram Verma (Director of National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi), Dr. A.S. Ramakrishnan (Surgeon, Madras), Rani Gaidiuliu (Social worker, Manipur), Dr. Gottipati Brahmayya (Social Worker, Andhra Pradesh), Dr. (Mrs.) Grace L. Mcmann Morley (Museum expert and art historian, New Delhi), Jhabarmal Sharma (Hindi author, Jaipur), Dr. J.M. Mehta (Surgeon and Laprosy specialist, Bombay), Dr. J.S. Bajpai (Physician, New Delhi), Dr. (Mrs.) Kamal J. Ranadive (Cancer specialist, Bombay), Ustad Khadim Husain Khan (Musician, Bombay), Acharya P.N. Pattabhirama Shastri (Sanskrit Scholar, Varanasi), Stella Kramisch (Art historian, Philadelphia), S. Balchander (Veena player, Madras), Dr. Syed Zahoor Qasim (Scientist Oceanography, New Delhi).

— Spain 's King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia arrived in New Delhi on a week long State visit to India. The royal couple was warmly received by President Sanjiva Reddy, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and her Cabinet colleagues.

26 India and the Soviet Union signed a protocol to promote cooperation between the two countries in the field of non-ferrous metallurgy.

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January 27 At least 17 persons were killed and 40 seriously injured when a truck carrying them plunged it to river Sanja, about 50 kms from Baripada, according to official reports received in Cuttak. The accident took place when the truck carrying 60 persons, all labourers from a project site in Sarat Police Station, hit a bridge across the river on its way to Baripada.

— At least 70 persons were killed and over 150 injured when the 21 Down Dakshin Express collided head on with a moving goods train near the outer signal of the Agra cantonment station early in the morning.

— Bhavanagar Congress (I) Secretary, Jyotish Sanghavi, was fatally stabbed at his office by a unkown assailant.

— Dr. B. C. Roy awards for 1981 were announced. Dr. K. L. Wig, a former Director of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and Dr. Harindranath Chattopadhyaya, eminent letterature were among the recipients of the awards. The noted philosopher, Dr.K. Sathinand Murty, a former Vice Chancellor of Sri Venketeswara University, Tirupati has also been given the award which carries an award of Rs. 50,000 in cash and a silver salver. The Management Committee of Dr. B.C. Roy National Awards Fund has also announced awards of Rs. 5,000 each to 23 persons in the field ot medical teaching, specially in different branches of medicine and the field of socio-medical relief. Besides, the Commitee has also conferred an oration on Dr. Atam Prakash, Professor and Head of the Deptrtment of Surgery at the All India Institue of Medical Sciences.

— India and Sri Lanka signed a revised convention on avoidance of double taxation.

28 The Posts and Telegraph Department issued a special two rupee stamp in connection with the centenary of telephones in India.

— Shetty, stunt man of Indian films died of a heart attack in Bombay.

29 Bihar Government gave clearance to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to prosecute 38 police officials and two medical officers allegedly involved in the blinding of undertrials in Bhagalpur district. As a sequel to this, the Government has ordered suspension of these officials involved in 14 cases which the CBI considered fit for prosecution.

— Former Chogyal of Sikkim, Palden Thondup Namgyal, died of cancer at New York. He was 59. Namgyal, who

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signed off his powers as Chogyal in 1975, following popular demand, had been suffering from throat cancer.

January 29 The Indian film "36 Chowringhee Lane", a story of an Anglo-Indian school teacher's struggle received the "Golden Eagle" award for best picture at the Manila international film festival competition.

— Pakistan's Foreign Minister, Agha Shahi and India's Minister for External Affairs, P.V. Narasimha Rao, intiated a high level dialogue in New Delhi on important bilateral issues including lasting peace in the region. On his arrival earlier, he told newsmen at the airport that a non-aggression pact between India and Pakistan would stabilise relations not only between them but also the situation in the country. He made it clear that he had not brought any draft of such a pact and that his talks with Narasimha Rao would be of a preliminary nature. Pledging to engage in "sincere discussions" with Narasimha Rao, he said that he would make an attempt during the full and frank discussion to dispel India's misapprehension about Pakistan's proposal. The visiting Pakistani Foreign Minister called on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and expressed Pakistan's firm resolve to "live permanently" in peace with India as well as to promote mutual trust and confidence. The two leaders decided to set up a joint commission to review bilateral relations periodically. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said that the structure and scope of the commission would be worked out in due course.

— The University Grants Commission has appointed a six member high power committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Madhuri Shah, UGC Chairman, to inquire into the working of the Central Universities. The Committee will, among other things, examine the general state of discipline in the Central Universities and causes of periodic disturbances in the campuses and will suggest remedial action.

30 India and West Germany signed an agreement in New Delhi for cooperation in aeronautical science research. The agreement envisages cooperation in research and development exclusively for peaceful purposes in different areas of aeronautical science such as aerodynamics, structures, turbo machinery, systems and materials.

— Vice Admiral N. Krishnan, former Chairman and Managing Director of the Cochin Shipyard Limited, died in sleep at his residence in Hyderabad. He was 63. Vice Admiral Krishanan was one of the most decorated officers in the services and was also awarded the Padma Bhushan. He served the Navy for 30 years.

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January 31 Billa and Ranga, the murderers of Chopra children, were hanged to death at the Tihar Jail more than 40 months after they had committed the ghastly crime.

— Mighty Bengal regained the Santosh Trophy, which they lost at Cuttack last year, by defeating railways by two goals to nil in a one-sided National Football Championship held in Trichur.

— N.N. Kallannaver, freedom fighter and a former Member of the Kanataka Legislature Council, died. He was 55.

February 1 Four hunderd and sixty five supporters of the Bharatiya Janata Party courted arrest at Boat Club to press for early elections to the Delhi Municipal Corporation and the Metropolitan Council and to highlight the demands of the farmers.

— India and the USSR signed a programme of cooperation in science and technology including many new and frontier areas of research like lasers, holography and bio-technology.

— Yeshwant Sakharam Bhangre, a former Congress MLA of Maharashtra, died following a heart attack.

2 Barely four weeks before the Central budget the Government announced big increase in postal, telephone and telex rates aimed at raising an additional Rs. 100 crores. The revised rates will come into effect on March 1. Telephone subscibers in the metropolitan areas will pay one and half time the existing rates. The charges will be Rs. 1,200 a year against the present Rs. 800. As if to soften the shock the subscribers will be allowed an additional 200 free calls for the whole year. The registration charges for all inland postal articles will go up from Rs. 2.25 to Rs. 2.75 an article. The commission on money orders will go up by nine paise for every Rs. 10 or its part. It will be 25 paise for every Rs. 10 upto Rs. 20 and 50 paise for every Rs. 20 there after. This will be revised as 30 paise for every Rs. 10 or part thereof.

— Former Chief Minister of Rajasthan and Congress (I) M.P., Mohan Lal Sukhadia died, at Bikaner.

— Former Union Cabinet Minister and Former Punjab Governor, Jaisukhlal Hathi, died in sleep in Bombay. He held the portfolio of Labour, Home, Irrigation and Power, Employment and Rehabilitation and Defence Supplies during his career as Union Cabinet Minister from 1952 to 1969. He was also Deputy Leader of then Congress Parliamentary Party.

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February 2 Geet Sethi, the 20 year old MBA student from Gujarat, became the new National Billiards Champion.

— Nineteen people were killed in a massive landslide in Sarbagli village near Digdul, about 170 km from Jammu, on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway.

— President N. Sanjiva Reddy, accomanied by his wife, Information and Broadcasting Minister, Vasant Sathe and Eric Gonsalves, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, arrived in Colombo on a six day official visit to Sri Lanka.

3 Twelve persons, including two women and three children, were killed when a truck carrying stones from Kotri mines fell into a ditch near the Hindaun-Kauroli road.

4 K. P. Mushran, former member of the railway Board, died in New Delhi. He was 79.

— The sixth cricket test between India and England ended in a draw. The match was played in Kanpur. With this draw, the fifth in a row, India regained the rubber against England 1-0 after losing it in 1974 in England.

— Veteran Congressman and freedom fighter Aman Singh Atrey, died.

5 The Pound sterling has become dearer by 15 paise following the devaluation of rupee by 0.87 percent by the Reserve Bank of India.

6 Japan will extend a Rs. 12.28 crores grant to India under an agreement between the two countries conculded in New Delhi.

— Three dearness allowance instalments due this August, October and December to Central Governmen employees will be impounded till March end 1983, according to an agreement reached between the Cabinet Secretary and representatives of the employees.

7 Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, T. Anjaih, reshuffled portfolios affecting as many as 16 Ministers and relieved himself of the portfolios of Information, Excise and Medium Irrigation.

— Murtazi Ali Khan, former Nawab of Rampur, died in New Delhi. He was 60.

— Swami Karpatriji Maharaj, a Hindu religious leader, died at his Kedarghat ashram in Varanasi. He was 76.

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February 7 Twenty three army personnel and crew were killed when a military aircraft carrying supplies to Leh district headquarters crashed in mist and snow. The aircraft ran into rough weather as it was flying from Pathankot to Leh.

8 The Government notified a sweeping (16) number of services as "essential" the disruption of which would invite detention under the National Security Act. The notification virtually covered all modes of transport, Government services, defence establisments, banking and basic industries. The notification followed the recent judgement of the supreme Court in the writ petition by A. K. Roy, Than Singh Jyagi and Dr. V.K. Pandit challenging the provisions of the National Security Act. Prominent among the supplies and services included in the notification are: — Postal, Telegraph and Telephone services, Railway services or any transport services for carriage of passengers or goods by air, or any other transport services for the carriage of passengers or goods by land or water. Services connected with the operation, repair or maintenance of aircraft or any service in the International Airport Authority of India constituted under section 3 of the International Airport Authority Act, 197.

— Ramesh Chandra Saharia, Assam's Minister for Revenue and Civil Supplies, died. He was 52.

— Six armed men looted about rupees two lakhs from the Galabari branch of a nationalised bank in the Barasat area of 24 parganas.

— State Department admitted to the United States, Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan, a protagonist of "Khalistan", despite opposition by the Government of India. The State Department spokesman, Dean Fisher has said that Dr. Chauhan was denied a visa earlier when it was found that his passport was invalid, However, according to officials, it has been decided to issue a waiver in Dr. Chauhan's case and he has been permitted to enter the United States. The statement issued by the State Department said that there is no reason that Indo-U.S. relations should worsen because it has waived the passport requirements to admit Dr. Chauhan for medical treatment.

10 Narendra Singh, presently Ambassador to Switzerland, has been appointed Ambassador to France, succeeding M. K. Rasgotra.

— Prime Minister Thorbjorn Falldin of Sweden, who arrived in New Delhi on an eight day official visit, offered his country's full cooperation to India in tackling environmental and energy problems, besides assisting the country

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in adopting new technologies in the industrial spheres. At his talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the two leaders shared strong opposition to any kind of foreign intervention in other countries and stressed the need for new initiative towards disarmament and reduction of growing global tension. On 11th February, at the conclusion of the talks between the visiting Swedish Prime Minister and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Sweden agreed to assist India in setting up a chain of power generating plants and in exploiting ocean resources. Sweden has also agreed to give India a grant of Rs. 45 crores for a social forestry scheme in Tamil Nadu. Prime Minister Falldin also said that Sweden will decide "case by case" if India seeks to purchase any arms from her. On 12th February, a joint statement issued at the conclusion of the visit, Falldin said that India and Sweden have agreed that prospects are favourable for closer economic cooperation between the two countries and has asked the respective Ministries of Industries to lay down the basis for further work in the field of engineering, metallurgy, energy, forestry, transport and communication.

February 10 The second round of talks between the Government, the Opposition and Assam agitation leaders to resolve the foreign nationals issue ended without reaching any agreement except on their continuation in future.

11 Air Vice Marshal Kapil Dev Chadha has been promoted to the rank of Air Marshal and appointed Air Officer-in-Charge, Administration at Air Headquarters in New Delhi.

— Capt. B. K. Bhasin, senior pilot of the Indian Airlines, took over as General Manager of Vayudoot, the third-level airline. He succeeded Capt. O. B. Braganza.

— M. V. Rama Rao, former AICC Secretary and former Karnataka Home Minister, died. He was 74.

— Noted Urdu critic, Abdul Ahad Khan Khalil, died. He was 74.

— Rup Narayan Chuttani, former Chief Justice of Sikkim, died in Chandigarh. He was 95.

12 The External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, left on official visit to Vietnam and Thailand.

— Public Account Committee of the Karnataka Legislature found Chief Minister, R. Gundu Rao and Civil Supplies Minister, Manik Rao Patil, guilty of gross violation of prescribed procedures and misuse of authority in the allotment of 4,000 tonnes of cement to appartment

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builders in Bangalore. The Committee recommended an inquiry under the Commission of Inquiries Act to probe the irregularities, favouritism and misuse of authority in the distribution of cement.

February 12 V.T. Bhattathripad, eminent Malayalam litteraeur and renowned social reformer, died in Trichur.

13 India and Algeria signed a joint agreement for technical and economic cooperation at the conclusion of meetings of the Joint Algerian—India Committe at Algiers.

— North Zone regained the Vizzy Trophy (cricket) after a lapse of two years, winning it for the sixth year.

— Punjab remained national hockey champions. In an exciting final, they tamed Indian Airlines Corporation 5-3 to lift the Rangaswami cup for the 15th time, at the Mohan Bagan Grounds in Calcutta.

14 Anjan Kumar Tripathi, a veteran freedom fighter and a journalist, died in Rae Bareli. He was 80.

— Chief of the Army Staff Gen. K.V. Krishna Rao left for Italy on a week's visit to that country on the invitation of the Italian Chief of the Army Staff.

— India announced the grant of a Rs. 10 crore loan to Vietnam for 1982-83 to help explore its mineral deposits, conduct geological surveys and provide wider facilities for training and technical expertise in the field of agriculture, industry and railways. The decision emerged at the end of two days of intensive talks between External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao and Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong at Hanoi.

— Prof. Atm Prakash, an eminent surgeon of international repute and Head of the Department of Surgery at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, died. He was 54. Born on July 7, 1928, Prof. Atm Prakash was awarded Padma Bhushan this year on Republic day.

— Pt. Brahamanand, a veteran journalist and freedom fighter, died at Nagrota Bagwan in Kangra district. He was 65.

— Top seeded Prakash Padukone of India won the men's singles event at the Dutch Open Badminton Championship held in Nieuwegein.

15 Akali Dal President, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, dissolved the working committee of his Party. In an

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announcement in New Delhi, he said that except the two General Secretaries, Prakash Singh Majithia and Rajinder Singh Bhatia, all others would cease to hold office. He clarified that the decision to dissolve the working committee does not effect the working of the district units of the Akali Dal (L) in Punjab, in other States and foreign countries. These would continue to function as before.

February 15 C.P.N. Singh, Minister of State in the Department of Science and Technology, Electronics and Environment, has been given additional charge of the newly constituted Department of Ocean Development, according to a Rashtrapati Bhavan communique.

— The Supreme Court refused to interfere with the death sentenee awarded to two brothers Ujjagar Singh and Kartar Singh for the murder of Mrs. Vidya Jain, wife of the noted eye surgeon, Dr. N.S. Jain, and dissmissed their joint writ petition against the sentence.

16 At the end of Bulgarian Deputy Prime Minister, Andrei Lukanov's three day visit to India, Bulgaria and India have signed an agreement under which both countries will organise a working meeting at New Delhi between engineering organisations and companies of the two countries for identifying concrete areas of cooperation on a country by country and project by project basis.

— New Zealand's Prime Minister, Robert D. Muldoon, announced the closure of New Zealand's High Commisson in New Delhi as an economy measure.

— Ramgulam alias Sarvadanand Saraswati, former district (Unnao) Lok Dal Chief and veteran freedom fighter, died. He was 72.

— Sibnath Banerjee, the noted trade union and socialist leader, died He was 85.

— Swaran Singh, a nephew of Sant Jarnail Singh Bhendrawale, and one of the three suspects in the Lala Jagat Narain murder case was arrested. Lala Jagat Narain, former MP and a veteran journalist, was shot dead in September 1981 by three man, riding a motor cycle.

— Two RH—560 rockets with payloads of the Physical Research Laboratory to study the ionosphere were launched from the Indian Space Research Organisation's SHAR centre at Sriharikota, about 100 km from Madras.

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February 17 The Foreign Minister of South Korea, Shinyong Lho, arrived in New Delhi on a five day visit during which he will have talks on Indo-Korean relations.

— The Government of India constituted a one man Commission of enquiry under the Commission of Enquiry Act, 1952 to go into the working and activities of Gandhi Peace Foundation, Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, All India Sarwa Seva Sangh and Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD). Justice P.D. Kudal, a Judge of the Rajasthan High Court, will constitute the Commission, which will report to the Government before July 31.

— A sum of Rs. 1.5 lakh was looted by an armed gang from a nationalised bank branch at Shyambazar in the northern part of Calcutta.

18 The Crown Prince of Jordan Hassan Bin Talal and Princess Sarvath arrived in New Delhi on a seven day state visit to India. Addressing a news conference in New Delhi on 20th February, Prince Hasan Bin Talal called for closer Indo-Arab ties. The Crown Prince left for Lahore at the end of his week long visit to India.

— The Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, M. Hidayatullah, announced the six member panel of Vice Chairman of the House. They are Dr. Najma Heptullah, Dr. Rafiq Zakaria and B.N. Pande of the Congress (I), R. Ramakrishnan (AI-ADMK); Dinesh Goswani (Ind.) and A.G. Kulkarni (Congress S).

— Indo-Bangla Border talks concluded at Dacca with both sides agreeing to cooperate in curbing border crimes including smuggling, infiltration and trespass.

— K.V. Mehta, elder brother of Kalyanji Mehta and a right hand man of Sardar Vallabhai Patel, died.

— President Sanjiva Reddy addressed both Houses of Paliament, marking the beginning of the budget session. The President's address was boycotted by the Lok Dal and the Democratic Socialist Parry (DSP) to protest against what they described as Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's "derogatory" remarks against President Sanjiva Reddy. The DSP later submitted a memorandum to the President explaining why its MPs stayed away during his address to the joint session. First, the memorandum said, the "address has been prepared by a Government whose leader has in public expressed no confidence in you while travelling in a foreign country", saying that the President of India being a man of Opposition was

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presenting "obstacles in her way". Secondly, the Goverument is trying to "deliver one mortal blow after another to the electoral process" by thwarting by—elections in Garhwal.

February 19 Freedom fighter, Sachidanand Jena, died at Orissa SCB medical college hospital after a brief illness. He was 80.

— In Mainpuri district, four members of a Yadav family were gunned down and a 16 year old girl was kidnapped by the bandit Chief Boora.

— India and Bulgaria signed at New Delhi a news and information exchange agreement between their news agencies PTI and BTA.

— People's Liberation Army extremists killed 21 army personnel in an ambush of military vehicles at Namthilok, about 30 km from Imphal on the Imphal—Ukhrul road.

— Shivaji Ganesan, popular Tamil film actor, has been nominated to the Rajya Sabha in vacancy caused by the death of Nargis Dutt. Prof. Asima Chatterjee, former President of the Indian Science Congress, has also been nominated to the House in place of late Bhagawati Charan Verma.

20 An agreement on sharing of Kanhar waters was signed in New Delhi by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, V.P. Singh, Madhya Pradesh, Chief Minister, Arjun Singh and Bihar Chief Minister, Dr. Jagannath Mishra in the presence of Union Irrigation Minister, Kedar Pandey. According to the new agreement, the share of Bihar would be 0.43 million acre feet (MAF) and that of Madhya Pradesh would be 0.47 MAF upto Baradih dam site and 0.15 MAF between Baradih and Madhya Pradesh border.

— Defending Champion Major Manchanda retained the title for the fifth consecutive time outplaying Anant Nayak (Maharashtra) in the straight sets 9-5, 9-2, 9-1 in the men's singles final of the 28th National Squash Championship held in New Delhi.

— Sakharan Sudhalkar, Dewan of the erstwhile Baroda State, died. He was 92.

— World Bank sanctioned a loan of rupees five crores to the Gujarat Agriculture University on liberal terms for carrying out research on local problems and constraints

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in agricultural production under national agricultural research project.

February 21 The 20 member group of the Antarctica expedition was given a rousing welcome at Marmugao harbour, where they arrived on a Norwegian ship. Besides the group, the ship carried two Indian Navy helicopters and samples for research.

— G.C. Pandey, noted historian, has been appointed Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan University.

— In a daring daylight dacoity, five armed bandits looted over Rs. 9 lakh from the Maharani Bagh (Delhi) branch of the Canara Bank and escaped in a mauve Premier Padmini car in full view of the large crowd which had gathered outside the bank on Ring Road.

— President Jullius K. Nyerere of Tanzania arrived in New Delhi on a five day State visit to India. In his airport speech, he emphasized the need to make the Indian Ocean a Zone of peace. He noted that India and Tanzania are working towards this objcctive.

— Rear Admiral Subimal Mookerjee has been appointed Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff in the rank of Vice Admiral.

22 B. Venkatarama Reddy was named to succeed T. Anjiah as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. He was nominated by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi after a meeting of the Parliamentary Board. Venkatarama Reddy was Minister of Transport in the outgoing Anjiah Cabinet. On 24th February B. Venkatarama (he droped his surname) and C. Jagannath Rao were sworn in as Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister respectively. On 28th February twenty two Cabinet Ministers and ten Minsters of State were sworn-in by Governor K.C. Abraham at Raj Bhavan taking the strength of the Cabinet to 34.

— Mrs Harnam Kaur, widow of Pratap Singh, who was killed in the Guru-ka-Bagh incident, died in New Delhi following brain haemmorhage.

— Prof. G.P. Talwar, Director of National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi has been given an award of rupees one lakh by the Rameshwardas Birla Smarak Nidhi Kosh for outstanding research in medical field.

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February 23 Railway Minister, P.C. Sethi, presented the Railway Budget for 1982-83 in the Lok Sabha. He announced all round increases in passenger fares and some marginal adjustments in freight charges effective from April 1 to yield an additional revenue of Rs. 261.45 crores in the next financial year. The monthly season ticket fares will remain unchanged, but all other passenger fares will be raised. Exemptions from surcharge given to second class ordinary passengers will be withdrawn and the minimum fares increased to 70 paise. The age limit for free travel by children will be reduced from five to three years.

— Sixteen persons were killed when a temporary cinema hall caught fire and collapsed in Jangipur village in Murshidabad district.

24 Kamalakant Das, an eminent Oriya novelist, died. He was 76. Besides short stories, dramas and poems, Mr. Das had written at least 40 novels and was honoured by the Orissa Sahitya Academy.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced an upward revision of rupee by 0.59 percent in relation to the pound sterling.

— The World Bank group announced a $ 350 million loan to institutions that lend to farmers in India for increasing agricultural production.

25 External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, announced at the Ministerial level discussions between India and Tanzania, that India will provide financial assistance totaling Rs. 150 million to Tanzania over a period of two years. He said, this assistance would be utilised for import of raw materials, components and management support for the India aided projects in Tanzania.

— The former Transport Minister and Working President of the Haryana unit of Congress (I), Rao Mahabir Sihgh, died.

— India and Pakistan signed a new agreement on rail communication which will improve facilities for passenger travel and movements of goods between the two countries. Under the three year agreement the existing express train service between Amritsar and Lahore with first and second class accommodation will continue. To cater to the increasing passenger traffic between the two countries, the number of coaches in the express train have been increased from eight to ten to be contributed equally by India and Pakistan.

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February 25 M. Subhan, a veteran journalist and retired special correspondent of "The Times of India", died in New Delhi.

— Rafiuddin Shaikh and Jethabhai Parmar, both Congess (I), were re-elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor respectively, of Ahmedabad.

— Rajaram Premnath Pitil, Congress (S), MLA, died at Mulaj in Marathwad, following a severe heart attack.

— Vice Admiral S.L. Sethi, Chief of Personnel, has been appointed Vice Chief of the Naval Staff.

26 Biennial elections to 68 Rajya Sabha seats from 16 States will be held on three days—March 19, 27 and 29 according to Election Commission. The election in Gujarat will be held on March 19. In Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala and West Bengal on March 27 and Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh on March 29.

— Janardhan Bakshi, former Judge of the Saurashtra State High Court, died. He was 82.

27 Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, presented in Lok Sabha the Union Budget for 1982-83 which provides some relief to low and middle income groups and certain incentives for saving and investment. However, it raised the auxiliary customs duty on a whole range of items as well as postal rates to net an additional revenue of Rs. 533 crores. The budget leaves an uncovered deficit of Rs. 1,365 crores. While the Congress (I) MPs hailed the budget for its emphasis on productivity and 20 point programme, several Opposition leaders including BJP President A.B. Vajpayee, characterised the budget as "IMF oriented".

— Raghunath Singh, former Maharaja of Jaisalmer and Lok Sabha Member (1952-62) from Barmer Constituency of Rajasthan, passed away at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi. He was 52.

28 Dr. Shanti P. Chaudhury, a well known documentary maker from Calcutta, died. He was 53.

— Noted Hindi Literateur and journalist, Chandra Shekhar Pandey, died at his village Bannawa, about 40 kms from Rae Bareli. He was 75. Mr. Pandey was the author of several books in Hindi and had been associated for a long time with the Hindi magazines "Madhuri" and "Sudha".

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February 28 — The 21st meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission concluded its two day deliberations in Dacca with both countries expressing optimism on finding a solution for sharing the Teesta waters. Summing up the outcome of the meeting, India's Minister for Irrigation, Kedar Pandey, told newsmen that "we are near solution".

March 1 — Admiral O.S. Dawson assumed the office of Chief of the Naval Staff. He has taken over from Admiral R.L Periera, who has retired.

— Air Chief Marshal Idris Hasan Latif, former Chief of the Air Staff, was appointed Governor of Maharashtra. The present incumbent, Air Chief Marshal O.P. Mehra (retd.) will be the new Governor of Rajasthan. The two appointments were announced in a press communique issued by Rashtrapati Bhavan.

— Capt. Kamini Chadha took over as Indian Airlines Managing Director from A.H. Mehta.

— Former Railway Minister, Kamlapati Tripathi, M.P., has been appointed Chairman of the Expert Committee set up to study the financial implications of the proposal for levy of additional excise duty in lieu of sales tax according to an announcement made by Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee in Lok Sabha. Kamlapati Tripathi has been appointed in place of Mohan Lal Sukhadia, who died last month.

— Ghulam Ahmed Shunthoo, MLA (National Conference, Jammu and Kashmir), died after having a massive heart attack.

2 — Chintamani Jain, a prominent jaltarang exponent, died in New Delhi. He was 71. Chintamaniji, as he was known, had written several books on jaltarang and won awards.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi inaugurated the longest bridge with a length of 5.5 km, built accross the Ganga in less than 12 years and designed to give a boost to the economy of North Bihar.

3 — Chhabiram, the most notorious dacoit leader of Uttar Pradesh, was killed by the police in an encounter in Nawan Dehra village, under Karhal police station of Mainpuri district.

— Keshto Mukherjee (55), the lovable "drunkard" of the Hindi screen, died in Bombay, following a heart attack.

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March 3 Prem Nath Kanna "Kashmiri" former Editor of "Daily Milap" died in London.

— Winner of Padma Bhushan, Jnanpith and Ghalib awards, noted Urdu poet Raghupati Sahai Firaq Gorakhpuri passed away in New Delhi after protacted illness. He was 86.

— Replying to a debate on the Railway budget, Railway Minister, P.C. Sethi, announced in Lok Sabha that the age limit for free traval by children, which was proposed to be reduced from five years to three years in the Railway budget proposals, has now been restored to five years. Similarly, the sleeper surcharge, which was proposed to be stepped up from the present Rs. 5 per night to Rs. 8 per night will now apply only for the first night. For each subsequent night, it will remain at Rs. 5.

4 Opposition members in Lok Sabha made an unsuccessful bid to table an adjournment motion to censure the Government for its failure to proceed against an IAS probationer for his alleged misconduct with his collegues, including women. The Director of the Academy, P. S. Appu, had proposed expulsion of the delinquent probationer, but the Home Ministry properred a "reformative" approach. The Director has since decided to go on leave preparatory to retirement. In Rajya Sabha too, Opposition gave notices seeking discussion on the issue. On 5th March, replying to a call attention motion, Minister of State for Home, P. Venkatasubhiah, informed Lok Sabha that the IAS probationer V. K. Singh, whose alleged misconduct with his colleagues, including some women, had raised a storm in parliament, has been discharged from service. About the Director of the Academy, P. S. Appu, the Minister told the House that he has asked for 426 days' leave preparatory to voluntary retirement from service and as such he has been permitted to relinquish charge of his office and proceed on leave. Opposition members, however, demanded that the Director should be recalled as his recommendation to discharge the probationer has now been accepted. Demanding a thorough enquiry into the episode, they asked for the regisgnation of Home Minister, Zail Singh, as he had tried to shield the delinquent probationer.

— Rear Admiral K. K. Nayyar, Assistant Chief of the Naval Staff, has been promoted to the rank of Vice Admiral at Naval Headquarters in Delhi.

— President Constantine Karamanlis of Greece arrived in New Delhi on an official visit to India. Later the Greek President had discussions with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the two leaders reviewed the situation in their

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respective regions, the current international economic situation and disarmament. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi hosted a lunch in honour of President Constantine Karamanlis.

March 6 B. R. Damani, noted industrialist and social worker, died in Bombay after a prolonged illness.

— Kennedy cottage (Simla), a four storey building which housed various offices of the Himachal Pradesh Government, was completely gutted in a major fire. The loss of property was estimated to be adout Rs. 1 crore.

— R. K. Mhalgi, a BJP M.P., passed away in Bombay after a protracted illness. He was 61.

7 Well known Jain acharya Vijaya Dharamasuriswarji Maharaj died. He was 76. Affectionately known as "Yug Diwakar", he had a big following in Maharashtra, UP, Gujarat and West Bengal.

8 The Union Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, has been appointed India's Governor on the board of Governors of the International Bankfor Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). He takes the place of R. Venkataraman, Defence Minister, R.N. Malhotra, Union Finance Secretary, will continue to be alternate Governor for India on the board.

— Government notified the composition of the reconstituted Press Council consiting of 28 member for a three year term. It has six Editors including three from the language newspapers and seven members each from among working journalists and the management of newspapers and news-agencies. The Council also comprises one representative each from the University Grant Commission, the Sahitya Akademy and the Bar Council of India and five members of Parliament.

9 Five armed men looted about Rs. 10 lakhs from a Zonal Post Office in South Delhi. Armed with knives and swords, they broke into the Jorbag post office and got away with the money bag containing the substantial amount.

— H. C. Sarin has been appointed Chairman of the Railway Reform Committee. According to an official announcement, he replaced B. D. Pane, now Governor of West Bengal, who has resigned.

— Malayalam writer, C. E. Joseph, popularly known as "EMJ Veniyoot" died. He was 55.

— Shamrao Nilkanth Oak, noted Marathi humarist, play wright and short story writer, died in Pune. He was 75.

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March 9 Dansih Foreign Minister, K. Olesen, arrived in New Delhi on a two day visit to India. On 11th March, he called on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and discussed with her bilateral economic relations and international situation. During his talks with External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, the visiting Foreign Minister offered to step up his country's economic assistance to India. The two leaders also agreed to step up trade between the two countries.

10 Dr. G.S. Melkote, former MP and vetern freedom fighter, passed away at the age of 81 at Hyderabad.

11 Nawal Kishore Sinha, a Congress (S) member of the Bihar assembly and a former MP, died in Patna. Mr. Sinha (65) was a member of Lok Sabha from 1971 to 1977.

— A new cultural exchange programme between India and German Democratic Republic for a three year period, 1982 -84, was signed in New Delhi. The programme envisages strengthening of mutual relations and understanding between the two countries through cooperation in the field of higher education and science, health, art and sports.

— P.N. Khosla, a retired journalist and civil servant, died of cardiac attack.

12 On transfer from Patna High Court, Justice K.B.N. Singh was sworn in as the new Chief Justice of the Madras High Court in January 1981 in place of Justice M M. Ismail, who was shifted to the Kerala High Court. Both the transfers were challenged in writ petitions before the Supreme Court. Justice Ismail, however, opted to retire. Supreme Court in December 1981 dismissed the petition challenging the transfer of Justice Singh. Following this, the President issued a notification on February 26, directing Justice Singh to assume charge as Chief Justice of the Madras High Court within 15 days.

— Over 100 persons, who began a hunger strike in the twenty day long new phase of the Assam agitation on the foreigner's issue, were arrested in different parts of the State in violation of prohibitory orders.

— The President, by a notification, called upon the Legislation Assemblies of 10 States to elect 48 members of the Rajya Sabha to fill vacancies arising from retirement. Polling for these States is to take place on March 29. The States (with number of seats in parenthesis) are: Andhra Pradesh (6), Maharashtra (6), Orissa (3), Punjab (3), Rajasthan (3) and UP (11). This will complete the biennial elections to 68 Rajya Sabha seats due to fall vacant.

— A prominent industrialist, Nalinikant N. Kilachand, 55, died following a carebral haemorrhage. Mr Kilachand was the Chairman and Managing Direcitor of Dodsal, an inte-

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rnational engineering firm. He was the first Asian to be elected on the board of International Pipeline Contractors Association, Paris.

March 13 In a dramatic detection of crime, the police after a five hour manhunt arrested two of five bank robbers in Jabalpur and recovered Rs. 1.20 lakh of the Rs. 1.58 lakh the gang seiged from the Garha branch of the State Bank of India in Jabalpur. One of the arrested man Ringo is a Ph.D student of Jabalpur University.

— Krishna Prasad, one of the earliest member of the Indian Civil Service (ICS), died in New Delhi. He was 87.

— Twenty five persons were killed and 15 injured when a bus carrying them from Virganj to Kathmandu fell in a ditch.

14 The National Development Council met for a one day session in New Delhi. Addressing the meeting, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi called upon the Council to reaffirm its determination to mobilise real resources in line with the investment needed for the 6th plan and the requirements of the new 20 point programme. According to her, the Centre as well as the States will need to mobilise much larger additional resources for these purposes.

— Twenty eminent artists in the field of music, dance and theatre were presented with Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for 1981 by the Chairman of the Academy, Kamala Devi Chattopadhyay for their excellence in their respective fields.

15 Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, annouced in Parliament the Government's decision tograant four outstanding instalments of D.A. from August 1981 onwards. While the arrears of the allowance will be credited to the Provident Fund Account of the employees, cash payment will begin from April onwards. The maximum gratuity payable to Govrnment employees has also been raised from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 36,000. Senior officials, Judges, Chairman of the UPSC and Army offiicers, Senior Scientists along with Joint Secretaries will get an adhoc D. A. of Rs. 1500 instead of existing Rs. 900.

— The Post and Telegraphs Department introduced an air parcel service between India and Zimbabwe (Salisbury).

— The Posts and Telegraph Department issued a special stamp in honour of Pablo Picasso.

— The President and the Vice President of the Archery Association of India, V.K. Malhotra and L.N. Khurana, have been awarded bronze plaquettes by the International Archery Federation in recognition of

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their services for the promotion of the sport in India and in Asian countries

March 15 Soviet Defence Minister, D.F. Ustinov, arrived in New Delhi heading a powerful delegation. On 19th March Marshal Ustinov and his powerful delegation comprising the Soviet Naval and Air Force Chiefs and the Deputy Chief of the Soviet Army have had extensive separate sessions with their Indian counterparts to identify the particular spheres in which cooperation in their respective fields can be strengthened and the other fields to which it can ba extended.

— Ten persons died and 13 were injured when a matador hit a tree near Varnala village on the Patti road (Amritsar).

— Ten persons including a woman lost their lives and 17 were in serious condition after they consumed illicit liquor at Prabhas Patan, a religious centre at Junagadh district.

— The ten week old Karunakaran Ministry in Kerala lost its majority when it lost the support of Lanappan Nambadan, who left the ruling Kerala Congress of the Mani group to join the Opposition as an independent member. Following his action, Left Democratic Front had 71 members in 171 strong house including the Speaker and the nominated member. On 17th March, Kerala was brought under the President's rule following a proclamation under Article 356 of the Constitution, signed to this effect by the President. Earlier, the Union Cabinet met and considered the report of Governor Jyothi Venkatachellum recommending imposition of President's rule on the ground that no stable alternative Ministry could be formed after the resignation of Karunakaran Ministry. The Governor earlier accepted the resignation of Karunakaran Ministry and dissolved the State Legislature.

16 G. L. Dutta, an eminent educationist and Arya Samaj leader, died.

— Ft. Lt. I.M. Malhotra was killed in an air accident near Bangalore.

17 A. P. Venkateswaran, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations at Geneva, has been appointed Ambassador to China.

— King Jigme Singhye Wangchuk of Bhutan arrived in New Delhi on a two day official visit to India. He was accompanied by his Foreign Minister, Lyonpo Dawa Tsering. On 18th March, King of Bhutan had talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and External Affairs Minister,

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P. V. Narasimha Rao, on the international situation and developments in the region. It was agreed that exchanges between the two countries should be further intensified. India agreed to step up its assistance for Bhutan's plan for 1982-83 from Rs. 21 crores to Rs. 25 crores. According to a Spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry, Bhutan is scheduled to receive Rs. 134 crores as assistance from India for its six year plan. In 1981-82 India had given Rs. 19 crores as assistance for the plan.

March 17 Noted philanthropist and social worker Sitaram Seksaria died at his South Calcutta residence following cardiac arrest. He was 90.

18 Jathedar Gurdial Singh Ajnoha, head priest of Akal Takht (supreme religious seat of the Sikhs) died at his native village, Ajnoha, 20 km from Hoshiarpur, following a massive heart attack. He was 57.

— K. C. Gogoi, who was sworn in as Chief Ministe of Assam on January 13, resigned shortly before the State Assembly was to meet to consider a no confidence motion against the Government. Later, the Union Cabinet recommended dissolution of the Assembly and imposition of President's rule in the State. The Cabinet took the decision after considering the report from the Governor Prakash Malhotra within hours of the resignation of the Ministry. The Governor in his report expressed the view that under the circumstances, no Party or alliance was in a position to form a stable Ministry and on 19th March, President Sanjiva Reddy signed a proclamation dissolving the Legislative Assembly and bringing the State under the President's rule.

— Ten persons were killed and several injured in a truck accident near Dabargaum, in Koraput district, on the Jeypore Umarkote State highway about 80 km from Jeypore.

19 Acharya J. B. Kripalani, the non agenarian Gandhian leader, died at civil hospital in Ahmedabad following a respiratory and cardiac arrest. He was 96. Both Houses of Parliament adjourned as a mark of respect to the Acharya. Members offered their condolences and observed two minutes silence before the Houses were adjourned.

— Haripada Bharathi, President of the West Bengal unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party and a fine orator, died. He was 62.

— In the first round of the biennial elections to the Rajya Sabha, Congress (I) won all the four seats from Gujarat.

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The four condidates elected were Yogendra Makwana, Union Minister of State for Communications, Kumudben Joshi, Union Deputy Minister for Health, Ramsing Rathwa Koli, a young Adivasi and Vitthalbhai Patel, a Delhi based journalist of a Gujarati Newspaper.

March 19 Justice Chandra Shekar Prasad Singh, a Judge of the Allahabad High Court and brother of Chief Minister of UP, V.P. Singh, was shot dead by dacoits while returning to Allahabad from Banda in a jeep. His son, A. P. Singh, and a servant were also killed. The second son, V. Singh was injured.

— Prof. C. N. R. Rao, Chairman of the Solid State and Structural Chemistry Unit and Meterials Research Laboratory, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore has been elected fellow of the Royal Society, London.

— The suspension of the Delhi Metropolitan Council was extended for a further period of six months with effect from March 21. This was the fourth time that the suspension of the Council has been extended for another six months through an ordor issued by the President. The Council was first suspended on March 21, 1980 for a period of one year. The extention of the President's order suspending the Council led to vehement protests from Opposition in the Rajya Sabha culminating in the walk out of BJP and some other Opposition members.

20 India and Mozambique signed a protocol on cooperation in the aluminium industry.

— Fifty nine persons were killed and 33 injured when the Mangalore-Nizamuddin Jayanti Janata Express rammed into a private tourist bus at an unmanned level crossing near Kolanpur railway station on the Kazipet-Balhaashah section of the South Central railway.

— Three advisors were appointed to the Governor of Assam following imposition of President's rule in the State. They were R. V. Swaminathan, former Advisor to the State Governor, Saran Singh, former Textile Secretary and B. Natarajan, who has served in a similar capacity earlier.

21 Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was given a warm welcome when she arrived in London for a six day official visit that will mark the inauguration of the Festival of India. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher greeted her personally at Heathrow airport as a special gesture to Indira Gandhi as British protocol does not require that a visiting Commonwealth Head of Government should be received by the Prime Minister. On 22nd March, a seven month "Festival of India" opened in London with a

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gala concert attended by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, British Prime Minister Margaret Thartcher and Prince Charles. The official opening at the Royal Festival Hall will be followed by Indian exhibitions, concerts, dance programmes and parades throughout the country. The festival of Indian culture is the biggest of its kind since the country gained independence in 1914. It took five years to gather the material for exhibition. Later on Prime Ministers of India and Great Britain had wide ranging talks in London. Margaret Thatcher agreed to examine India's request for more aid and the difficulties it is facing because of an adverse balance of trade in recent years.

March 22 Former Congress (I) President (Punjab), Sarla Prashar, MLA, was killed in a car accident near Bharatgarh village on Ropar-Nangal road.

— India would supply 1.75 lakh tonnes of superfine rice to the Soviet Union between July and December this year under an agreement signed in New Delhi.

— Popular Yatra actor Samir Lahiri was killed on the spot and actress Barnali Banerjee and two others were injured in a car accident near Samudragarh in Burdwan district.

— Rajasthan retained National Cycle Polo Championship defeating Punjab in the final of the ninth National Cycle Polo Championship held in New Delhi.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced an upward revision of the rupee by 0.30 percent in relation to pound sterling. The spot buying and selling rates are so fiixed as to give a middle rate of Rs 16.80 per pound sterling as against Rs. 16.85 previously.

— The ruling Congress (I) candidates for the three Rajya Sabha seats were declared elected uncontested. They were: Santosh Kumar Sahu (Sitting), Banamali Babu and Gayacha D. Bhuyan. Opposition parties did not field any candidate in the election.

— A three year master plan for the provision of services to children in India was a signed in New Deihi by the Government of India and UNICEF. This formalized a UNICEF commitment of $138.3 million for children in India for the period 1981-83. This is the largest commitment by UNICEF to any single country.

33 Annasaheb Patil, MLA (Maharashtra), shot himself dead at his house in Bombay.

— A set of three stamps to commemorate the inauguration of the Festival of India now being held in the

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from other business interests, editors will have a greater say in the running of the newspapers and the nation will depend less on foreign news agencies for information on happenings abroad. The Newspaper cess and an advertisment tax, will have half its 12 members drawn from newspaper interest and will offer subsidized services to the Press and will also make it possible for the Government to launch newspaper in areas not served by the daily press. The Commission, in the first instance, had Justice Goswami as Chairman, but was reconstituted on April 20,1980 with Justice Mathew as its new head. The Commission's recommendations were unanimous except on such issues as delinking of newspaper industry, price-page schedule and advertisement news .atio on which notes of dissent have been appended to the report.

April 3 Shah Mohammed Dost, Afghanistan's Foreign Minister, arrived in New Delhi. He delivered a message from Afghan President Babrak Karmal in which he had conveyed his greetings to Indira Gandhi, pointedly referring to the role played by India in the region and appreciating the consistent efforts made by India to bring peace and stability in the region.

4 Eleven people died after drinking illicit liquor at Delapur village, about 23 km from Indore.

5 A.R. Kakodkar, Ambassador to Portugal, has been appointed Ambassador to Finland. He will succeed Madanjeet Singh.

— Hardev Bhalla, Joint Secretary (West) in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been posted to Oslo as Ambassador to Norway.

— In a keen contest, BJP nominee Prabhakar Pai defeated Congress (I) nominee B.D. Zute to become the Mayor of of Bombay.

— The talks between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Akali Dal (L) leaders failed after the fourth round, mainly over the Ravi-Bias water issue. The Akali felt that Punjab had been subjected to step-motherly treatment. Former Union Minister, S.S. Bonnala, said that the issue be handed over to the Chief Justice of India and that the Akalis would abide by his decision. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi informed them that this was an issue that could have repurcussions all over the country. However, she said that Punjab would not be starved of water and power. Any shortfall in water would be sorted out by the committee of experts.

6 The 19 day old strike by non-gazetted employees of Uttar

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Pradesh Government was suspended in the light of an appeal by the Chief Minister.

April 6 Gulab Singh, a veteran freedom fighter, died at Dehra Dun. A close associate of C.B. Gupta, Gulab Singh was 96.

— The 80 year old Lok Dal President, Charan Singh, dramatically announced his retirement from active politics in a desperate bid to put down a revolt by his senior Party colleagues including Devi Lal and Biju Patnaik on the question of Opposition unity. He will retain his membership of the Lok Sabha.

7 K.M. Chandy, President of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (I), has been appointed Lt. Governor of Pondicherry. He succeeds R.N. Haldipur.

- National awards for films for the year 1981 were announced. The Bengali film "Dakhal" has won the Swaran Kamal, the top national award for the best feature film. The director, Gautam Ghose, gets the Golden Lotus and Rs. 25,000. The Rajat Kamal for the second feature film was clinched by "Pokkuvedi" (Malayalam) directed by Arvindan. The best director award went to the well-known Bengali actress Aparna Sen for her maiden venture, "36 Chowringhee Lane" (English). The special jury award for 1981 has gone to Satyajit Ray for his Hindi film "Sadgati" shot for Doordarshan. Rekha was adjudged the best actress for her role in "Umrao Jaan". Asha Bhonsle gets best playback singer award and Khayyam best music director for "Umrao Jaan". "Umrao Jaan" also got the award fot best art direction. The role in Shyam Benegal's "Aarohan" gave Om Puri the best actor award. The awards were given by the President N. Sanjiva Reddy on 27th April.

— Shri Ahhivan Sachidanand Tirth Mharaj, the Shankaracharya of Shardapeeth Dwarka in Jamnagar district, died of cerebral haemorrhage.

— The world Bank announced a $ 200 million loan to India for expansion of capacity of four refineries. The four refineries are: Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL), Madras Refineries (MRL) and Cochine Refineries Ltd. (CRL).

8 Acting General Secretary of Lok Dal, Rabi Ray, announced at a news conference in New Delhi the Party's decision to suspend sinior leaders of the Party, Devi Lal, Biju Patnaik and Kumbharam Arya, from its primary membership for "anti-party activites". He said, "The proposed Chandigarh convention of April 15 and 16 alleged to be a

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step towards unity of the Opposition Parties, is in fact a step to create indiscipline and demoralisation among the workers of the Party".

April 8 Bachu Prasad Sinha, Officer on special duty in the External Affairs Ministry, has been appointed Indian Ambassador in Surinam.

Bhagat Hari Chand Madan, a veteran freedom fighter, died. He was 93.

— Dr. Samora Machel, President of Mazambique, arrived in New Delhi on a five day official visit to India. on 9th April, during their hour long meeting, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi assured President Samora Machel that India views his country's development needs with sympathy and that it would cooperate with Mazambique in this regard. The two sides concluded a protocol under which India would provide economic and technical assistance to Mazambique in industrial, agricultural and educational fields on a long term basis. They also concluded cultural agreement for exchange of visits by scholars sportsmen and artists to further consolidate their bilateral relations. On 14th April, a joint communique was released at the end of Mozambique President's visit to India. Mozabmique shared India's cocern over the acquisition of sophisticated weapons by Pakistan. Both countries noted with concern the growing influence of interference of outside powers in South Asia.

— The Election Commission recognised the Congress (S) as a Notional Party under the name of Indian National Congress (Socialist) with the reserved symbol Chakr, until further orders. The Party had filed an application before the Election Commission seeking such a recognition.

— The supersession of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has been extended for another six months upto October 10, 1982. A notification issued by the Union Home Ministry said it had become necessary as the Government would require more time to put back on rails the personnel and financial administration of the corporation.

— Tammina Potharaju, a former member of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly and a member of the Communist Party of India, died.

— The third round of tripartite talks on foreigners issue in Assam ended in a deadlock. The Government and the Movement leaders once again failed to come into any agreement on the substantive issue, principles for the detection of foreign nationals.

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April 9 Jagatpal Pasi, main suspect in the murder of Mr. Justice C.S.P. Singh of the Allahabad High Court and his son, was killed in a three hour long fierce encounter with the police and PAC personnel at Viyawal village in the Mau police circle of Banda district.

10 The controversial Sikh leader, Ganga Singh Dhillon, was deported by the immigration authorities soon after his arrival at Delhi airport. G.S. Dhillon, a American citizen had been invited by the Talwandi faction of the Akalis to attend the Third World Sikh Convention to be held at Anandpur Sahib on April 13. Last year, after G.S. Dhillon's visit to India and the controversial resolution on Sikh nationhood, the Union Government imposed a ban on his entry to this country and Indian missions abroad were informed accordingly.

— India's first national Satellite, which heralds a new era in communications and will be used for identified socio-economic objectives, has taken off from Cape Canaveral in the U.S. Twice postponed, the launching was achieved at 12.17 p.m. (Indian Standard time) when the two stage Delta launch vehicle of the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration carrying INSAT-1A lifted off. A few hours after the launching of India's National Satellite, certain anomalies were noticed with the command issued to the INSAT-1A. On 11th April in a major manoeuvre, INSAT-1A was placed in an intermediate orbit before being put into a small near-geo-stationary orbit.

11 C.P. Sharma, a veteran sportsman and the organising Secretary of the All India Kishan Volleyball Tournament and Vice President of the Delhi State Kabbadi Association, died.

— G. Sankran Nair, noted Gandhian and social reformer, died at Otapalm near Palghat. He was 90.

— The Punjabi poetess Amrita Pritam has been awarded the Bharatiya Jananpeeth award for 1981. She is the first Punjabi author and the second woman writer to get the prestigious award, the first to receive the award was Bengali writer Ashapoorna Devi. Amrita Pritam got the award for her poetry collection "Kagaz Te Kanwas" (1973). This year the award money has been raised from Rs. 1,00,000 to Rs. 1,50,000.

12 Dr. M. Chenna Reddy has been appointed Governor of Punjab. He succeeds Aminuddin Ahmed Khan.

— The eminent revolutionary, Pandit Parmanand of Jhansi, died in New Delhi following a heart attack. He was 93.

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U. K., was released by the Minister for Education, Sheila Kaul. Of the three stamps, one of the denomination of Rs. 2 depicts a deer in a sculpture belonging to the fifth centry A.D. The Rs. 3.05 paise stamp portrays the radio telescope at Ooty and the other shows "Kaliya Mardana" an image of Lord Kirshna dancing on the serpent hoods.

March 23 Twenty nine persons were killed and 21 injured when a bus of the Himachal Pradesh Road Transport Corporation fell into a khud near Joginder Nagar, 100 km from Simla.

24 C.P.Ravindranathan, Counsellor in the Indian Embassy in Paris, has been appointed High Commissioner to Fiji in succession to Soonil Kochar.

— It was officially announced in New Delhi that Krishna Dayal Sharma, India's High Commisssoner to Australia, has been appointed Ambassador to Pakistan. He will succeed Natwar Singh, who is taking over as Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry.

— Krishna B.Rajan, Deputy High Commissioner in Lusaka, has been appointed Ambassador to Algeria in succession to K.M.Lal.

— Prabhakar Menon , Director in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed Ambassador to German Democratic Republic (East Germany) in succession to Krishnan Raghunath.

— Railway budget for 1982-83 received Parliament's approval with Rajya Sabha returning it as passed by the Lok-Sabha earlier.

25 Eighteen persons, including nine women and eight children, were killed when a huge mound of waste coal and cinder collapsed and buried them near Dankuni in Howrah.

— Mani Ram Bagri, a DSP member of Lok Sabha, resigned from the membership of the Business Advisory Committee of the House.

— The Minister of State for Home, P.Venkatasubbaiah, presented to the Lok Sabha the report of the one man Inquiry Commission headed by district and sessions Judge Jagdish Chandra, who probed the causes for the tragedy inside the Qutub Minar on December 4, 1981, resulting in the death of 45 persons. The Commission has held the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking and the Archaeological Department responsible for the tragedy. The report said one of major causes of the tragedy was failure

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of electricity for two hours between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on that fateful day. The report also indicated the Archaeological Department for "the very bad and dangerous condition" of almost all the stairs inside the Qutub Minar.

March 27 Acharya of the Jain Khambhat Sampradaya, Suryanamuniji, died in Surat.

— The Congress (I) won all the four Rajya Sabha seats from Karnataka. The elected members were: E.M. Khan (sitting member), Veirashetty M. Kusknorr, M. Rajagopal and Hanumanthappa. The ruling Left Front in West Bengal captured all the five seats. The elected members were: N.P.Bhattacharjee, N. Chatterjee, S. Sen (all CPI-M), K. S.Ray (CPI) and R. Majoomdar (FB). In Jammu and Kashmir G.R. Mattoo (National Conference) and D.C. Prashan (Independent) were elected to the Rajya Sabha.

28 At least 20 people, including four women and three children, met a watery grave when the boat in which they were travelling capsized in the Mahi river near Maujpur, 25 km from Baroda.

— Inaugurating the controversial convention on "revival of Sanjay Gandhi's Five point programme" at Lucknow, Maneka Gandhi refuted the charge that the convention was anti-Party (Congress-I) and she said she attended it not to break Congress (I) but to build the country. Describing the convention as an expression of homage to her late husband she hoped that the nefarious designs of the Opposition would be destroyed and its dreams shattered. She appealed to the people to strengthen the hands of the Prime Minister, who was steering the country through a dangerous situation with great skill. Referring to her alleged RSS links, she asserted that she would disprove all allegations against her of playing the RSS tune.

29 C. Rajeshwar Rao was re-elected General Secretary of the CPI unanimously by the National Council for the sixth consecutive term at Varanasi.

— Congress (I) emerged with a marginal gain in the Rajya Sabha biennial election by capturing a total of 47 seats from States against the retirement of its 46 members. With this tally, the Party's strength goes to 120 in the Upper House with an effective strength of 234. Four members were to be nominated to the House by the President, but six other seats were still vacant. With the completion of the third leg of the polling covering nine States, 63 of the 73 seats falling vacant on April 2, have been filled. Election from Assam (two seats), Kerala (three) and Delhi (one) were not held as their respective

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legislative bodies had been dissolved. The Lok Dal and the CPI (M) have won three seats each, followed by BJP and the CPI with two seats each. The Congress (S), the Akali Dal (L), the Janata Party and the J & K National Conference and the Forward Bloc have got one seat each, last seat has gone to an independent.

March 29 Delhi regained the Ranji trophy after the lapse of a year defeating Karnataka by virtue of their first inning lead.

— Maneka Gandhi left the Prime Minister's residence along with her son. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has reportedly expressed her unhappiness over Menka's participation in the anti Party convention backed by anti Congress (I) forces, including the RSS and the release to the press of the letter addressed to her even before it had reached her. She made it clear to her daughter-in-law that she should not play into the hands of anti Congress (I) forces and that the Prime Ministers official residence would not be permitted to be used for carrying on political activites oppossed to her and her Party. Prime Minister was, however, reported to have told Maneka Gandhi that if she mends her ways and breaks her links with anti Congress (I) forces, including the RSS, she could continue to stay at her official residence.

— A new Regional Party was formed in Andhra Pradesh under the banner "Telugu Desam", with the leading Telugu actor, N.T. Rama Rao as its founder President. About 20 persons including four legislators, who recently resigned from the Congress (I) and a former M.P. attended the meeting held at the residence of a former Minister, N. Bhaskara Rao, in Hyderabad.

— Nine persons, including three women and a child, were killed and 11 seriously injured when the Ahmedabad-Kalol-Vijpur passenger train rammed into a Gujarat State Transport bus near Lodra level crossing in Mehsana district.

— Vice President, M. Hidaytullah, has accepted the Presidentship of the Indian Red Cross Society. Earlier, this office was held by the President of India, but the rules have now been amended to make the Vice President, the Society's President in future.

30 Formal orders have been passed on the Union Government decision announced by the Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee in Parliament on March 15 in regard to the release of four instalments of dearness allownce to Central Government employees.

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March 31 Nine eminent Scientists received the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards for Science and Technology for 1981 from Prof. S. Nurul Hasan. The awardees were: Physical Science- Prof. S.M. Roy (TIFR, Bombay) and Prof. Srinivasan (IISC, Bangalore), Chemical Sciences-Prof. D. Balasubramaniam (Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad) and Prof. B.M. Deb (IIT, Bombay), Engineering Sciences-Prof. S.C. Dutta Roy (IIT, Delhi), Mathematical Sciences-Prof. J.K. Ghosh (ISI, Calcutta), Biological Sciences-P.V. Sane (BARC, Bombay) and Sushil Kumar (IARI, Delhi) and Medical Sciences-U.C. Chaturvedi (K.G. Medical College, Lucknow).

April 1 Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh; B. Venkataram, has instituted a one man inquiry commission comprising of senior IAS officer Sravan Kumar, to bring out the truth into the multimillion cement scandal allegedly involing the Major Industries Minister, Baga Reddi.

— Mathura Lal Sharma, an authority on medieval and Asian history, died in Jaipur. A former Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan University, Mr. Sharma, 86, had written 45 books in history. He was also the Director of the Institute of Historical Researh.

2 Dr. Gobind Behari Lal, Indian freedom fighter and distinguished science writer, passed away at San Francisco. He was 62. Founder of the Gaddar Party in the USA, which played a historic role in aiding the Indian freedom movement from the northern hemisphere of America, Dr. Lal was a co-winner of the Pulitzer prize for the best science writing in 1937. He was also the receipient of Padma Bhushan and received the "tamra patra" from the Prime Minister.

— Ramesh Chandra Shukla, Indian High Commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago, has been concurrently accredited to Antigua and Barbuda.

3 The reconstituted second Press Commission submitted its report to the Government making far reaching recommendations for the development of the Press in the country. The Commission, headed by Justice K.K. Mathew, has proposed a Newspaper Development Commission to help healthy growth of "Indian language, local and other small and medium newspapers and publications". Creation of such a Commission is recommended as the most effective means of ensuring independent growth of the Press, free from the political and other forms of pressure. The Commission, in its report, envisages a new information order in the country where the citizens will have access to Government information, newspaper will be delinked

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Pandit Parmanand, who was a founder member of the the Gadar Party, had spent 40 years in Jail, He along with 41 other revolutionaries, was sentenced to death in the Lahore conspiracy case. While seven of them were hanged Parmanand and others were ultimately sent to "Kala Pani" (the Adamans) for life imprisonment.

April 12 — In a daring robbery two armed desperdoes intruded into the Geetanjali Enclave branch of Punjab National Bank (Delhi) during lunch hour and decamped with Rs. 2.27 lakhs after threathening the four employees present at that time.

— Mrs. Kapada Ramasubbamma, freedom fighter and social worker, died. She was 81.

— Six Parties will continue to enjoy the status of a National Party and 25 the status of a State Party following a review by the Election Commission of the position of the recognized Parties with reference to their poll performance at the 1980 Lok Sabha and Assembly elections held in 1979. The National Parties are Bharatiya Janata Party, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxist), Indian National Congress, the Janata Party and the Lok Dal.

13 — Former Bihar Chief Minister, B.P. Mandal, died at Patna medical hospital following a heart attack. He was 65.

— India has signed a comprehensive deal for the purchase of 40 Mirage 2000 fighter aircraft, retaining the option to undertake its manufacture indigenously in future. The document, called the "intention to proceed" was signed in Paris after protracted negotiations on the interest rates for credits for purchase of the aircraft. The deal signed between the Government of India and manufactures of the aircraft "Marcel Dassault" gives India the right to produce upto 110 aircrafts at the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

14 — A branch of the Punjab National Bank at Sarih village, 35 km from Jullunder, was robbed of its entire cash of Rs. 35,46,670 by four turbaned armed youths.

— India and Hungary signed in New Delhi, a new cultural and scientific-technical exchange programme. The programme, which covers a period of three years from January this year, envisages strengthening of mutual relations and understanding between the two countries through cooperation in the field of education and sciences, art aud culture, mass media and sports.

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April 14 Twenty two persons were killed when two buses collided on the Tirunelveli-Magarcoil highway.

— Two armed youth holding five persons hostage for nine hours in the South Avenue flat of a Congress (I) MP, Dalbir Singh, were overpowered by policemen posing as newsmen in a swift 20 minute operation. The two youth have been identified as Ram Narayan Kumar, 27 and Kumaraswamy, 22, both belonging to Andhra Pradesh. Kumar and Kumaraswamy stormed the flat of Dalbir Singh at about 7 a.m., demanding basic amenties for 20,000 workers in the coal mines of Jharkhand coal field in Madhya Pradesh. Dalbir Sineh, who represented the Shahdol Constituency in the coalmining area managed to escape.

15 Lok Dal President, Charan Singh retrieved his April 6 decision to retire from active politics and presided over the Party's National Executive Committee which discussed the strategy for the May 19 Assembly elections and confirmed the suspension of Devi Lal, Biju Patnaik and Kumbaram Arya.

— Opposition Unity Convention was held in "Ekta Nagar" in Chandigarh. Three Opposition Parties took part in the "Unity Convention", the Janata Party, a breakaway group of the Lok Dal and the Congress (S).

16 The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved an additional $ 330 million to assist India's ailing economy. The funds are part of a controversial $ 5.6 billion financial package approved last November despite criticism by the United States.

— Marathi short story writer and novelist, Achut Barve, died. He was 56.

17 The agitation for the implementation of the Gokak Committee report, recommending first language status to Kannada in the schools of Karnataka, took a violent turn claiming two lives in police firing in Chitradurga, 150 km from Bangalore. On 19th April, in an effort to satisfy the demands of the protagonists of Kannada language and at the same time protect the interests of linguistic minorities, Karnataka Government decided to accept the Gokak Committee report with modifications. It rejected the Committee's recommendation that Kannada be the sole first language but made its study compulsory for non-Kannada students in schools. The representatives of the linguistic minorities among the legislators, who attended a meeting with the Chief Minis-

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ter, hailed the new language formula and described it as satisfactory.

April 17 The Dadasaheb Phalke award for outstanding contribution to the cause of Indian cinema was announced for noted music director, Nausad Ali. The award consists of a Swaran Kamal, a cash prize of Rs. 40,000 and a shawl. The award was presented by the President N. Sanjiva Reddy on 27th April.

— External Affair Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, arrived in Japan on a five day visit. On 19th April, a joint statement was issued after two rounds of talks between External affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, and his Japanese counterpart Yoship Sakurachi. The statement said, the two leaders discussed the volume of bilateral trade and possibility of diversifying Indian exports and flow of credits and economic cooperation.

— H.C. Sarin, Chairman, Railway Reforms Committee, will have the status of a Minister of State of the Union Council of Ministers, according to an offical release.

— Prof. Prahalad Pradhan (72), Vice Chancellor of the Shri Jagannath Sanskrit University, Puri, died.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrived in Jeddah on a four day visit to Saudi Arbia. She was accompanied among others by Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee and Minister of State for Tourism and Civil Avitation, Khurshed Alam Khan. She was accorded a warm welcome at the airport. On 18th Indira Gandhi arrived in Riyad from Jeddah. She had talks with the Saudi leaders. During the talks, the Saudi leaders indicated their interest in India's economic devement and possibilities of Saudi capital profiting from Indian industrial technology and consultancy services. Both sides expressed concern at the continuing Iran-Iraq war and called for renewed efforts by the Non-Aligned group of four nations and the Islamic cconference to halt it.

18 Lok Dal President, Charan Singh, revoked the suspension orders against the three Party leaders : Biju Patnayak, Devi Lal and Kumbharam Arya. He took this decision after being assured of complete acceptance of his leadership by the three rebel leaders, who had revolted against him and decided to form a joint front with the Janata Party and the Congress (S).

— R. Sampathkumaran (57), who headed the Electoral Reforms Commission, died in Bangalore.

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April 18 Twelve persons were killed and severel others injured following a bus accident near Shera Ghat, 3 km from Almora.

— The call for Maharastra bandh evoked poor respose. Trains, buses, taxis and private vehicles were plying and factories, banks and Government offices were open. The police registered a dozen cases of stone throwing and about 70 stray incidents of violence in Bombay. About 1500 persons were arrested in tne city, including CPM leaders Ahilya Rangnekor and Prabhakar Sanzgiri.

19 Dr. H.C. Hanumantha Rao joined the Planning Commission as a member.

20 Ganapati Chandra Gupta, former Vice Chancellor of the Himachal Pradesh University, has been appointed Vice Chancellor of the Kurukshetra University.

— George Fernandes, M. P., has been nominated as member of the Press Council of India by Speaker Balram Jakhar. He replaces Ajit Kumar Mehta, who has resigned.

— Gurucharan Singh, at present a Director of African Division in the External Affairs Ministery, has been appointed High Commissioner to Ghana.

— The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting terminated the ad-hoc appointment of Kamleshwar, noted Hindi writer, as Additional Director of Doordarshan. Mr.Kamleshwar, however, submitted his resignation in protest against what he termed as the Government attitude towards his ad-hoc appointment. He said his contract had not been renewed for certain administrative reasons. Kamleshwar felt that while his continuance was not a problem, he had to resign so as not to succumb to pressure from a section of bureaurcacy.

21 Bar Council of India nominated Ram Jethmlani, a senior advocate, as its nominee to the Press Council of India. He replaces Rajit Mohanty, who has resigned.

— Jagdish Prasad Choudhary, a Congress (I) MLA (Bihar), passed away in Bombay. He was 55.

— The outlawed Mizo National Front Chief, Laldenga, left India for London after a six year futile effort to find a solution to the 16 year old insurgency problem in Mizoram.

22 Algerian President Chandli Bendjedid arrived in New Delhi on a four day State visit. He was accompanied by the Algerian Foreign Minister, Mohammad Benyapia.

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On 23rd April, the visiting Algerian President and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi discussed the international as well as bilateral matters. Later the delegations of the two countires led by External Affairs Minister, Narasimha Rao and Algerian Foreign Minister, Mohammed Benyahia held discussions on a wide range of issues including economic cooperation between the two countires, Iran-Iraq war and African situation. On 25th April, a joint communique issued at the end of four day visit of the Algerian Ptesident, called for extensive cooperation, particularly in the field of science, technology and research, to help break the monopoly of the western countries on technology.

April 22 Ghaus Mohammed, national tennis champion of yesteryears, died in Hyderabad. He had represented the country at the Wimbeldon tennis championship in the thirties and was the first Indian to have reached the quarter final stage. He was a recipient of the Padmashree award.

— K.P. Mathrani, ICS, former Secretary in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, died. He was 70.

— Sadashiv Bagaitkar is to be the leader of the 15 member Lok Dal group in Rajya Sabha in place of N.P. Shahi who has retired and has not been renominated.

23 Pandit Vishvanath Pande, prominent freedom fighter and principal of a Sanskrit educational center, died. He was 85.

— R. Parthasarthy, well known Tamil writer, died in Madras. He was 76.

— Ravish Chandra Verma, a former Finance Minister of Bihar, died at his residence.

25 India and German Democratic Republic signed an agreement on cooperation in planning. Under this agreement, the two countries will provide mutual information on the preparation of a five year and annual plans and exchange experience in manpower planning in industrv and agriculture. The two countries will also cooperate in the development of energy sources.

— Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Nguyen Go Thacesh arrived in New Delhi.

26 The Chancellor of Bihar dismissed two Vice Chancellors and transferred two others to different Universities. Those dismissed were K.K. Mandal and Shyam Nandon Kishore of Magadh and Bihar Universities respectively.

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Narmeshwar Jha and Famuddin Ahmed were appointed in their places. Dr. Saligram Singh, Vice-Chancellor of Mithila Universit yand M.Q. Thauhid of Bhagalpur University changed places.

April 26 Noted Hindi poet and literary critic, Malyaj, died after a heart attack. He was 47.

— Razali Ismail was appointed Malaysian High Commissioner to India.

— Sixty new members of Rajya Sabha took the oath of affirmation.

— Twelve persons were killed and 50 injured, 13 of them seriously, when a high velocity cyclone lashed the Southern part of Silchar sub division of Cachar district in Assam.

27 A 24 hour curfew was imposed at 5 p.m. in certain areas around the Golden temple (Amritsar) and in places which witnessed arson and clamity between two groups in the wake of tension created by the planting of the several heads of cows in front of two temples on 26th April. Half a dozen persons were injured when the police opened fire in the Katra Ahluwalia area where a mob resorted to brick batting against the police. One of them succumbed to the injuries. On 28th April, while the city remained free of untoward incident, over 100 leaders and workers of political, religious and social organisations undertook a peace march led by the Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, N.D. Tewari and Darbara Singh.

— Fifteen persons, including five women and four children, were killed and 50 injured when the balcony of a house collapsed in Inayatpur village (Agra).

— The President N. Sanjiva Reddy, gave away the 29th national film awards at Vigyan Bhavan and inaugrated the National Film Festival, 1982.

— Twelve people were killed on the spot and about 25 injured when a bus carrying a marriage party rolled down a khud near Tara Devi, about 15 km from Simla.

28 A.B. Vajpayee and L.K. Advani were elected leader and dupty leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party in Parliament. The names of other office bearers are: Deputy ledader, R. Jethmalani (Lok Sabha) and Jaganathrao Joshi (Rajya Sabha).

— Abasaheb Samel, popularly known as Vasant Pandhari-

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nath, a freedom fighter of the Goa liberation movement, died. He was 65.

April 28 A further downward revision of rupee by 0.30 percent in relation to the pound sterling was announced. The spot buying and selling rates are so fixed to give a new middle rate of Rs. 16.70 per pound sterling compared with the previous rate of 16.65.

— Iranian Foreign Minister, Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, arrived in New Delhi on a five day visit.

— Shyamlal Yadav, Congress (I) was re-elected Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha, defeating the Opposition candidate Dinesh Goswami (Ind) by a voice vate.

29 Five Cabinet Ministers, one Deputy Minister and the Chief Parliamentary Secretary of Haryana, who were denied Congress (I) ticket for the ensuring State Assembly elections, have resigned.

— India and Romania signed a protocol recognising the scope for joint execution of projects, joint tendering and subcontracting in third countries, especially in the power, steel, textile and petrochemicals sectors.

30 Curfew was imposed in Patiala and the police fired several rounds to disperse an unruly mob indulging in arson as tension triggered off by acts of scrilege in Amritsar on 26th April. The police resorted to firing after repeated lathi charge and teargassing failed to disperse violent mobs who burnt down two shops and ransacked several others in the Arna Barna Chock and Jaurian Bhattian areas of Patiala.

— In one of the worst outbursts of mob frenzy in Calcutta 17 Anand Margis, including two women (Brahmacharinis), were killed at different places in the Kasba region on the southern outskirts of the city, within a kilometre of the Margis global headquarters in Tiljala.

May 1 107 persons have been arrested in connection with the killing of 17 Anand Margis in the Ballygunge-Kasba area in Calcutta on April 30. West Bengal Government appointed Justice Samrendra Chandra Dep, a Sitting Judge of Calcutta high court, to conduct an enquiry.

— The Government decided to ban the Dal Khalsa and the National Council of Khalistan, as these Organisations had been indulging openly in anti national and secessionist activities. The ban has been imposed under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 1967.

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May 1 M.G.K. Menon took over as a member of the Planning Commission.

— M.K. Rasgotra took over as Foreign Secretary. He replaced R.D. Sathe, who retired from the Indian Foreign Service on April 30.

— Veteran freedom fighter and astute politician, Dr. Pratap Chandra Guha Roy, died. He was 96.

2 The Congress (I) released its menifasto. It promised a stable, purposive and efficient Government if voted to power in the May 19 Assembly elections in West Bengal, Kerala, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. It said that a mandate for the Party will be a vote for national unity and strength. The manifesto was particularly critical of the CPI (M) led Governments of West Bengal and Kerala, whom it accused of systematically terrorising their opponents. The menifesto further said that the charges of discrimination levelled against the Centre by these Governments were "totally false" and may be a cover up for their own non performance and unsound economic policy.

— Dr. Thasketan Sahu (51), former Minister (Orissa) and Lok Dal leader, died of heart attack near Sambalpur.

— A joint statement was issued at the conclusion of a five day official visit to India of Iranian Foreign Minister, Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati. According to the statement, India and Iran have decided to set up a joint commission to give a boost to their bilateral relations in the field of economy, trade, industry and culture and science and technology. It also expressed an intention to sign a cultural agreement soon. The two countries have signed agreed minutes of discussions identifying specific areas of cooperation in many fields.

— Mohanlal Jalan, a leading industrialist, who was in a state of coma for a year after a road accident, died following a heart attack.

— S.A. Krishnan, 56, editor of the Lalit Kala Akademi and art historian, was killed in a road accident.

3 Eleven persons were drowned when a boat capsized near Puraini Ghat in Ghazipur district.

— President N. Sanjiva Reddy was given a warm welcome on his arrival in Dublin (Ireland) on a four day State visit to Ireland. Later, at a banquet given by President Patrick Hillary of Ireland, President Reddy expressed concern over the new tensions which has arisen in the

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Indian Ocean area and in India's neighbourhood and asked other nations to "join us in working together" to reduce the risks of war and enlarge the area of peace in the world. President Patrick Hillary recalled the strong bond of friendship which exists between India and Ireland and said "our ties are firm and enduring".

— Rajendra Kumar Rai, India's Ambassader in Zaire, has been concurrently accredited as India's envoy to Central African Republic.

— Rajni Patel, Congress (S) leader, former trade union activist and an eminent lawyer, died of cardiac arrest in Bombay. He was 67.

— S.K. Singh, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed India's Ambassador to Austria.

May 4 A Congress (I) member of the Rajya Sabha from Haryana, Sujan Singh, joined Lok Dal. He had left the Lok Dal, to join the Congress (I) three years ago.

— Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap, Joint Secretary in the Lok Sabha Secretariat, has been selected by the Inter-Parliamentary Documentation at Geneva. Dr. Kashyap is the first Asian to be appointed to the IPU Secretariat.

5 Ataur Rahman, President of the Assam Pradesh Congress (S) Committee, died in Gauhati following a massive heart attack. He was a former Minister and former Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

— T.K.N. Unnithan has been appointed Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan University. He has been appointed to the post for a period of three years.

6 Assam bandh paralysed noral life in the State, but the Government maintained the essential services and reported improved attendance in administrative offices and banks. Shops remained closed in most of the Brahmaputra Valley area except in the predominantly immigrant districts of Goalpara. The bandh has no effect in Cachar, North Cachar hills and Karbi-Anglong districts. No incident of violence was reported in the State during the bandh. However, one person was killed and three injured in an explosion in the Narengi-Pandu shuttle train near Gauhati on 5th May.

— Eight persons were killed and 20 injured when a bus carrying 30 members of a Madras film unit fell into a deep khud near Kiratpur Sahib on the Bilaspur road.

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May 6 The Export Import Bank of Japan, under an agreement signed in Tokyo, extended a loan of two billion yen (about Rs. 7.6 crores) to the State Bank of India for re-lending to Indian importers for purchase of small and medium sized plants and equipment.

— India was re-elected to the U.N. Human Rights Commission for a new term of three years beginning from January 1, 1983.

— President N. Sanjiva Reddy arrived in Belgrade to a warm and affectionate welcome on a five day official visit to Yugoslavia. On 7th May, after two rounds of talks between high level teams of India and Yugoslavia, headed by President Reddy of India and President Sergej Kraigher of Yugoslavia, both the countries arrived at a broad measure of agreement on most issues, both international and bilateral, with the non-aligned movement remaining the central arena for cooperation between the two countries.

— Punjab Govetnment invoked the National Security Act, 1980, for three months. The earlier order expired last night.

7 The pound sterling has further become costlier by five paise following a downward revision of the rupee by 0.30 percent in relation to pound sterling, announced the Reserve Bank of India.

— West Germany will provide India with 360 million marks low interest development credits and 34.3 million marks in grants this year. It was announced in Bonn at the end of four day Government level talks.

8 The 1982 Kalinga prize for popularising science has been awarded to a Venezuelan science journalist, Apristides Bestidas. The award was created by Biju Patnaik.

— The deepening crisis in Indian hockey reached its crescendo with Surjit Singh, the reigning Captain, announcing his decision to quit the international scene on the eve of final trials for the selection of the team for the Championship Trophy at Amsterdem next month and the tour of Europe preceeding it.

— Dr. D. Rawat, associate professor at Patnagar Agricultural Uniyersity, has taken over as the new Vice Chancellor of Garhwal University for a full term of three years. He succeeds B.D. Bhat, who has retired.

— Rohini Khadilkar of India secured the ninth place in the

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first World Cup chess tournament for junior ladies. The tournament was held in Senta (Yugoslavia).

May 8 Renowned Marathi poet and Sahitya Akademy award winner Atmaramraoji Deshpande, popularly known as "Kavi Anil" died in Nagpur. He was 81.

9 Post and Telegraph department issued a commemorative stamp in honour of the eminent social worker, Mrs. Durgabai Deshmukh. The 35 paise stamp carries a portrait of Mrs. Deshmukh.

— A 16 member Indian hockey team, with 24 year old centre forward Surinder Singh Sodhi as Captain was announced by I.M. Mahajan, President of Indian Hockey Federation (IHF). The team will play in Chamionship Cup starting in Amsterdem on June 6.

— Three persons were killed and several others seriously injured when the 13 UP Tezpur Express collided with the 14 Down Tezpur Express.

10 In Karnataka, a new Party named "Karanatka Kranti Ranga" led by D. Devaraj Urs formally came into existence.

— An Indian Air Force Fighter Aircraft crashed at Tosham, 20 km from Bhiwani, killing the pilot Ft. Lt. R.K. Srivastava.

11 Dileep Shankarrao Kamtekar, currently India's Ambassador to Mexico, has been appointed High Commissioner to Australia. He will succeed Krishna Dayal Sharma.

12 India was formally admitted to the membership of the African Development Bank group of institutions. As a full fledged member, India will contribute to the African Development Fund (ADF), the soft window of the Bank, and qualify for participating in projects directly funded by the Bank and Fund.

— The pound sterling has become five paise costlier following the Reserve Bank of India's devaluation of the rupee by 0.29 percent.

15 An eleven member Chinese delegation led by Fu Hao, Special Envoy of the Chinese Government, arrived in New Delhi for discussion on Sino-Indian bilateral relations with an Indian delegation led by Eric Gonsalves, Secretary East in the Ministry of External Affairs.

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May 15 H.D. Bhalla, Indian Ambassador to Norway has been concurrently accredited to Iceland with residence in Oslo.

— K.M. Chandy was sworn in as Lt. Governor of Pondicherry at Raj Niwas.

16 A.G. Limaye, General Secretary of the Rashtriya Seva Dal and former Joint Secretary of the Maharashtra Janata Party, died of cancer. He was 44.

— Indian Railway, outplayed Punjab 3-0 to win Women's Hockey Championship for the third consecutive year.

— Leading the Indian delegation to the Indo-Afghanistan Commission meetings in Kabul, K. Natwar Singh, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, met Afghan Prime Minister, Saltan Ali Kushtmad and discussed "traditional friendly relations between the two countries". At the conclusion of the three day meeting of the Joint Commission a protocol was signed by K. Natwar Singh and Bonishjou, Afghan's Deputy Foreign Minister for stepping up of India's assistance to Afghanistan in technical and economic fields. Establishment of music centre and a gynaecology institute has also been agreed to by India and assistance in the fieid of health will also be raised.

— Vijay Amritraj of India was declared the winner of the 200,000 Gunze World Tennis Tournament after Sandy Mayer of of the United States stopped playing in the middle of the first set because of a sprained ankle.

18 D. Kemporaj Urs, younger brother of former Chief Minister of Karnataka, Devaraj Urs, died after a heart attack. He was 62. Kempraj Urs was a noted film actor, director and former Chairman of the Karnataka Film Development Corporation.

— Miss Pamela Singh, 19, of Bombay, was crowned Miss India 1982 in the Femina beauty contest held in Bombay.

— Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, received the highest Dutch decorotion of "Commander in the Order of Golden Ark", for her outstanding work in environmental conservation, at a function in New Delhi.

19 Heavy polling wos recorded in the mini-general election as more then 65 percent of an electorate of 57 million cast their votes to elect 592 members to the West Bengal, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana State Assemblies. As many as 3,440 candidates were in the field for 592 seats. For the first time indigenously produced electro-

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nic voting machines were used in the Parur Constituency in Kerala which registered 82 percent polling, the highest in the conntry.

May 19 L. K. Mehrotra, Ambassder to Argentina, has been concurrently accredited as Ambassader to Paraguay with residence in Buenos Aires.

— Mrs. Soonu Kochar, till recently Indian Ambassador to Fiji, has been appointed Ambassador to the Netherlands in succession to Miss C. B. Muthamma.

20 The Congress (I) candidate, Mohsin Kamal, won the Bidar Assembly (Karnataka) seat by - election, defeating his nearest rival Narayan Rao of the BJP.

— The Congress (I) won the Sardar Shahr Assembly (Rajasthan) seat as its candidate Kesar Chand Bohar defeated his nearest BJP rival Mukand Ballab Sharma.

— The United Democratic Front, led by Congress (I), was voted back to power in Kerala, defeating the marxist-led left Democratic Front. UDF captured 77 seats in the 140 Member Legislative Assembly with the LDF getting 63 seats, The election was held on May 19. The parties comprising UDF are: Congress (I), Congress (A) (Antony Group), Indian Union Muslim League, Kerala Congress (M) (Mani Group), Kerala Congress (J) (Joseph Group), Janata (G), National Democratic Party, Socialist Republican Party, Revolutionary Socialist Party, Praja Socialist Party and Independents. Left Democratic Front (LDF) consisted of the CPI (M), CPI, Congress Socialist (Congress S), Revolutionary Socialist Party (RSP), All India Muslim League, Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), Lok Dal, Janata (A) (Agarngil group) and Independents.

21 The Indian Ambassador to Austria, K. P. Dalal and the Chairman af the OPEC Fund Governing board, Mahsoum Jalal signed an agrement which would provide the Ramagundam power project $ 30 million from OPEC Fund. The loan brings the OPEC Fund's total grant to India to $ 135.8 million.

— Ram Prakash Bali, Congress(I), won the Punjab Assembly by-election from Nangal Constituency defeating his nearest rival Kishori Lal of CPI (M). In Faridkot Jagdish Kaur Dhillon of Akali Dal defeated her nearest rival Tirlochan Singh Riyasti of Congress (I).

— Shiv Sharan Singh from Sahebganj Constituency and Sudhir Kumar Singh from Jabalpur Constituency were declared elected to the Bihar Legislative Assemcly in by-

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elections. Both belonged to Congress (I).

May 21 Speaking at a banquet in New Delhi in honour of PLO leader Yasser Arafat ,Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said that the continuing Iran-Iraq war and unresolved Palestinian issue are being used as convenient excuses for the induction of armament on a large scale and increasing pressures on the countries of the region. She described Yasser Arafat as a symbol of the people afire with the spirit of freedom. She lauded his vision, courage and determination, which has galvanised the Palestinian Movement. On 23rd May, at the end of three day official visit by Yasser Arafat, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi reiterated her Government's resolve to keep the doors open for continuation of the dialogue on the proposal of a no-war pact, and on a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation with Pakistan.

— Sudarshan Kumar Bhutani, presently officer on special duty in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed Ambassador of India to Portugal in succession to A. R. Kakodkar,

22 All the resutls of election to the 294 member Legislative Assembly (Wast Bengal) were declared. The election was held on May 19. The CPI (M) led Left Front gained more then three fourth majority by winning 238 seats. Congress (I) and its allies won 54 and SUC 2 seats. CPI (M) leader Jyoti Basu was re-elected leader of the Left Front Legislature Party. Jyoti Basu was sworn -in as Chief Minister along with his four Cabinet colleagues by the Governor on 26th May.

— Brig. T. Sailo's ruling People's Conferencc (Mizoram) defeated Congress (I) rival in three of the four Assembly by-elections. The fourth seat was won by People's Conference ally, the Mizo Union. With this the ruling Party has a strength of 21 in the 30 member House.

— External Affairs Minister, P. V. Nsrasimha Rao arrived in Dacca on a brief visit to acquaint himself with the approach of General H. M. Erashad, who also holds the Foreign Affirs portfolio, to Indo-Bangladesh, regional and international problems of concern to both countries. Mr. Rao and General Erashad had discussion on 23rd May. The talks were cordial and friendly and he had high hopes of mutually solving the outstanding issues between the two countries. Both sides agreed to set up a Joint Commission to further economic cooperation between India and Bangladesh. Such a Commission had been in existence till 1975. The two sides also discussed a solution to the problem of augmentation of Ganga waters. They

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also agreed to meet frequently.

May 22 Haryana Chief Minister, Bhajan Lal, was unanimously elected leader of the newly elected Congress (I) Legislature Party. The newly elected Lok Dal leader Devi Lal met Governor G.D. Tapase, who asked him to parade his supporters before him at Raj Bhawan on May 24. On 23rd May Bhajan Lal was sworn-in as the new Congress (I) Chief Minister of Haryana. Bhajan Lal alone was administerd the oath of office and secrecy by Governor G. D. Tapase. He was invited to form the new Goverment on the basis of his claim that Congress (I) is the single largest Party after the May 19 electians. This preempts claims of Devi Lal (Lok Dal), staked a day earlier to form the new Government on the basis of commanding support of the Lok Dal, the BJP, the Congress (J) and a few other independent members. The Governor told newsmen before the oath taking ceremony that he was satisfied with Bhajan Lal's claim of majority support. He added that Bhajan Lal had been asked to prove his majority on the floor of the House with in a month. Lok Dal leader strongly protested to Governor G. D. Tapase against his decision to invite Bhajan Lal to form a new Government denying thereby an opportunity to Devi Lal of Lok Dal. Lok Dal leaders alleged that the Governor's decision is undemocratic and accused him of throttling democracy. On 24th May Devi Lal produced before the Governor 45 newly elected Legislators supporting him and agitatedly demanded Governor G. D. Tapase to dismiss the one day old one man Bhajan Lal Ministry and convene an emergency session of the new assembly within a week to have a show of strength. There were unprecedented scenes of arguments, when angry Legislators of the Lok Dal, BJP, Congress (J) and a few independents hurled all sorts of abuses on the Governor and accused him of having taken a partial and unconstitutional decision to install the minority Government of Bhajan Lal. Unable to get a satisfactory reply from Governor, Devi Lal and his supporters later moved to Delhi to see the President. They demanded immediate removal and dismissal of Haryana Governor G. D. Tapase by the President. The leaders told the President that the Governor has acted in most "outrageous" manner in inviting Bhajan Lal to from the Government ignoring all constitutional priorities and norms by not giving a chance to Devi Lal (Lok Dal) to show his majority strength.

— H. N Bahuguna, Chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party, romped home in the elections to the Garhwal Lok Sabha seat, defeating his Congress (I) rival, Chandra Mohan Singh Negi, Minister of State (UP) for Hill Development in one of the most prestigious by-election.

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May 22 Indian Ambassador in Saudi Arabia and acting Saudi Oil Minister signed a long term agreement, for importing Saudi Oil to India. This was the first such agreement India has entered into with a oil exporting countriy.

— Mrs. Sarla Grewal, Union Secretary for Social Welfare, was elected Chairman of the programme committee of executive board of UNICEF for 1982-83

23 Kerala lifted the boys title for the first time in the 33rd Junior National Basketball Championships, defeating Uttar Pradesh. Kerala girls, however, went down fighting to holders Punjab by a margin of 82-65 points. The championship was held in Pune.

— In the elections to the Himachal Pradesh Assembly held on May 19, all the results have been declared. Congress (I) has won 31 seats, BJP 29, Janata 2 and independents 6.

— The results of 89 seats to the 90 member Haryana Legislative Assembly, elections of which was held on May 19, were declared so far. Congress (I) got 36 as against 37 of the alliance (Lok Dal-31 and BJP-6) with 12 independents in the field. Besides the Congress (J) has bagged three and the Janata Party one. The result of Hissar Assembly Constitutency has been with held as a repoll has been ordered.

— Twenty persons were killed and 30 others sustained injuries, ten of them seriously, when a high velocity squall accompained by thunder showers lashed Pratapgarh.

— Zalim Singh, a freedom fighter and a close associate of Mahatama Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, died in Kutia Rampur village near Kanpur. He was 82.

24 A 19 member UDF Ministry (Kerala), headed by Congress (I) leader K. Karunakaran was sworn-in by Governor Jyothi Venkatachellum.

— An agreement was signed by Tran Duc Luong, Director General of Geology of Vietnam, who was leading a Vietnamese delgation to New Delhi and J. Swami Nath, Director General of Geological Survey of India, to promote scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries in the field of geology and minerals such as mica, gold, tin, precious stones and limestone.

— The Election Commission issued notifications duly constituting the new Legislative Assemblies of West Bengal, Kerala, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh, elected in 19th May poll.

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May 24 An executive protocol on scientific and technical exchange between India and Syria signed in Damascus, provides for deputation of Indian Experts to Syria and vocational training of Syrians in Indian institutions.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi laid the foundation stone of the Nehru Planetarium on the grounds of the Teen Murti House. The Planetarium is expected to be inaugurated on Nehru's 94th birth day on November 14, 1983. The planetarium is the second to be built by the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund. The first was built at Anand Bhavan, Allahabad.

— Ram Lal, leader of the Congress (I) Legislature Party was sworn-in as the new Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh.

— President issued a proclamation revoking President's rule iu Kerala. The State came under President's rule on March 17, following the fall of Karunakaran Ministry.

— Satya Narayan Singh, a leading member of the CPM in UP and a former Member of Parliament, died of a heart attack in Varanasi.

— Ten persons were killed and ten injured seriously in headon collision between a tractor and a truck near Purian village, about 13 km from Nawadh on the national highway.

— World Press Review (Magazine) has honoured Arun Shourie, Executive Editor of the Indian Expree, as international Editor of the year. The Magazine said Mr. Shourie was being honoured for his introducion of aggressive, independent, investigative journalism into the World's largest democracy.

25 External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, arrived in Bulgaria on a four day official visit.

— India's Ambassador to Syria, Ashok Kumar, signed a pact with Syrian Planning Minister, Kamal Sharaj, for scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries in Damascus. This pact provides for direct exchange of industrial resarch and planning personnel.

— Jagdish Narayan Avasthi, a freedom fighter and former Educatian Minister of Madhya Pradesh, died in Jabalpur. He was 70.

— President Hammer de Roburt of Nauru arrived in New

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Delhi on a six day official visit. Receiving him at the airport, President N. Sanjiva Reddy expressed hope that the bilateral collaboration between the two countries will serve as a model for South-South cooperation. On 26th May Prime Minister Indira Gandhi called on the visiting Nauru President Hammer de Ruburt and exchanged views on the international situation. Both leaders discussed in detail on South-South cooperation.

May 25 A set of powerful dynamite sticks meant to blow up Palika Bazar, the prestigous underground shopping complex in Connaught Place, New Delhi, were detected. Handwritten notes connecting the act to People's Liberation Army known to be indulging in sabotage in the eastern region were also found with dynamite.

26 The Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund awarded Nehru Fellowship for two years to physicist Padma Bhusan, Dr. A. R. Verma and a sinior civilian, B. P. Singh, Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam. It brought the total number of Nehru fellowships so far awarded to 74. The fellowship carries a monthly stipend of Rs. 3000 and an annual grant of Rs. 10,000 towards contingencies.

27 Governor of Haryana, G. D. Tapase, administered the oath of office and secrecy to 12 Cabinet Ministers and six Ministers of State in the Bhajan Lal Ministry. The strength of the Congress (I) has gone up to 47 in the 90 member House against 42 till a few days ago. On 26th Bhajan Lal made two additions to the 19 member Ministry.

— The Hansaria Tribunal upheld the Central Government's notification of January 20 declaring the Mizo National Front (MNF) unlawful. Justice B. L. Hansaria, a Judge of the Gauhati High Court, passed the order under section four of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The Centre's notification, issued under the Act, has also declared as unawful bodies allied to the MNF, including the Mizo National Army.

28 In an inaugural address to the All India Conference of Chief Electoral Officers in Shillong, the Chief Election Commissioner, S. L. Shakdher said that without amenedding the Constitution, a provision should be made in the election law requiring every candidate to make at the time of nomination a declaration to the effect that in case the candidate having been declared elected on a symbol alloted to him, changes his Party affiliation or independent status after elections, he will incur disqualification and cease to be a member. He added, this is the only way to eliminate the evil of defection, which is corrupting

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our public life.

May 28 Nearly a dozen persons were killed and 40 injured, some of them seriously, when a truck carrying them skidded off the road and fell into a ditch near Rajauli on the Patna Ranchi road, about 50 km from Biharsharriff.

29 The Government has appointed Dr. Mulk Raj Anand, eminent writer, as honorary Editor of art books to be published by the Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

— A top ranking Naxalite, Nirmala alias Radakka (45) of Andhra Pradesh and the wife of the underground Naxalite leader, Chandra Pulla Reddy was arrested in Coimbatore. She was wanted by A. P. police in connection with 10 cases of violence, attempt to murder and dacoities. She carried a reward of Rs. 15,000.

30 More than 20 million people in Rajasthan were reeling under a severe drought which has gripped the State for the fifth consecutive year. In all 23,246 villages out of a total of 33,305 in the State have been declared famine affected by the State Government.

31 Bihar Governor, A. R. Kidwai, has accepted the resignation of Sagir Ahmed from the Bihar Ministry. Ahmed was Minister of State for Law and Housing.

June 1 Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Ram Lal, announced a three tier Ministry comprising seven Cabinet Ministers, four Ministers of State and four Deputy Ministers. There will also be a Chief Parliamentary Secretary. Fourteen Ministers were sworn-in on 2nd June. Portfolios to Ministers were allocated on 5th June.

— India and Cyprus signed at Nicosia their first programme of cultural and educational exchanges. The programme provides for cooperation between the two countries in the field of science, culture, education, sports, radio and T. V. The agreement took place in the wake of a three day official visit to Cyprus by the Minister of State for Education, Culture and Social Welfare, Sheila Kaul.

— Lok Sabha Speaker, Balram Jakhar, nominated A.C. Das (Congress-I) as the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes for the term ending April 30, 1983.

— Nine Opposition Parties-Lok Dal, BJP, Congress (J), CPI (M), DSP, CPI. Janata, Congress (S) and Kranti Ranga-jointly wrote a letter to the Prime Minister to convene a

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meeting to discuss the possiblity of having a consensus over the election of the new President. The letter was written in pursuance of a decision taken at a meetting of the Opposition Parties held a day earlier, when it was decided that there should be a "consensus candidate" for the Presidency in keeping with the tradition set by the Janata Government. The letter pointed out that N. Sanjiva Reddy was elected President unanimously in 1977 when the Janata was in power and ten years laster M. Hidayattulah was similarly elected Vice President.

June 1 Thirteen persons were killed and 14 others were injured, six of them seriously, when a truck skidded off the road and fell into a khud on the Chamba-Massoorie road in Tehri district.

— Y. Keshava Menon (80), freedom fighter and a close associate of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, died in Delhi.

2 37 Ministers of the second Left Front Ministry in West Bengal were sworn-in by the Governor, B. D. Pande.

3 Eight persons died and 25 were injured when a goods train rammed a local passenger train near Gummudipoondi, 45 km from Madras.

— Eric Consalves, Secretary (East) in the External Affairs Ministry, has been appointed India's Ambassador to Belgium and the European Economic Community.

— K. D. Sharma, at present India's High Commissioner to Australia, has been appointed Ambassador to Pakistan

— N. P. Jain, at present India's Ambassador to Nepal, has been appointed Ambassador to Mexico. Mr. Jain succeeds D. R. Kamtekar, who has been appointed High Commissioner to Australia. India's High Commissioner to Australia has been appointed Ambassador to Pakistan.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi set aside Information and Broadcasting Ministry's decision to use the expression "Akashwani" in All India Radio Bulletines in all languages. Her decision followed a strong protest against the Government's move from Tamil Nadu and also many non-Hindi speaking members of Parliament.

— Supreme Court declared that no fundamental right had been infringed by the action of the Governor of Haryana, G. D. Tapase, in inviting Bhajan Lal to form the Government. Dismissing the writ petiton field by DSP leader Raj Narain challenging the constitutionality of the Bhajan Lal Ministry, the vacation Judge, Justice

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O. Chinnappa Reddy, also stated that the Governor is not answerable to any Court for the exercise of his power.

June 5 Dr. Asohke Kumar Majumdar, historian and former Director of the Delhi Centre of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, died. He was 64.

— The European Economic Community has allocated 31,000 tonnes of milk powder and 12,700 tonnes of butter oil to the Indian Operation Flood II Programme under EEC's 1982 food aid programme.

— Press Council Chairman, A.N. Grover's renomination was decided by a three member committee comprising Vice President, M. Hidayatullah, Lok Sabha Speaker, Balram Jahkar and Usha Mehta, a representative of the Lok Sabha in the Council.

— Union Government prohibited strikes in 13 different services in Assam under the Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981. An official press note said that the services interalia include any postal, telegraph or telephone services, any railway service or any transport service for the carriage of passengers or goods by air, or any other transport service for the carriage of passengers or goods by land or water with respect to which Parliament has power to make laws.

— Devraj Urs, who dominated the Karnataka political scene for over a decade, died after a massive heart attack. A former trusted lieutenant of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, he had the distinction of holding the office of Chief Minister of Karnataka for about nine years.

— Former Chief Minister of Pondicherry, V. Venkatasubba Reddiar (73), died.

— The Veteran trade union leader, Sant Singh Yusuf, died after protactad illness at Kanpur. He was 76. A member of the Uttar Pradesh legislature for several terms, he had lead the historic 80 day strike of the Kanpur textile workers in 1955.

7 Krishna Kant Handique, 84, noted orientalist, Sanskrit scholar and first Vice Chancellor of Gauhati University, died at Dibrugarh in Upper Assam.

— Surinder Singh, a "dissident" Congress (I) MLA and son of Bansi Lal, former Chief Minister of Haryana and former Union Minister, was sworn-in as a Cabinet Minister (Haryana) by Governor, G.D. Tapase. His

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inclusion raised the total strength of the Ministry to 22. Surinder Singh has been given the charge of Agriculture and Wild Life Preservation Department. The Agriculture portfolio was so far held by Birendra Singh.

June 8 A day's token strike by junior doctors in Government hospitals all over the country brought health services to a standstill. The one day protest was organised by the All India Federation of Junior Doctors Associations (AIFJDA) to demand the implementation of its 14 demands it has placed before the Union Ministry of Health.

— Different places in Assam were plunged into darkness since 6 p.m. with the beginning of 10 hour "black out" agitation. It was observed at the instance of All Assam Students Union and the Gana Sangram Parishad to intensify their current phase of movement on the foreigners' issue.

— Dr. K. Bhaskaran Nair, scientist, educationist and litterateur, died in Cannanore. He was 70. Dr., Nair was the recipient of several literary awards.

— A fighter aircraft af the Iadian Air Force crashed about 20 km from Hoshiarpur, Punjab. Flying officer A.N. Gadgil, the pilot and sole occupant of the aircraft, was killed in the crash.

— Former Chief Executive Councillor of Delhi, Radha Raman, died following a massive heart attack. He was 78. He was Chief Executive Councillor of Delhi from 1972 to 1977 and a Member of Parliament from 1952 to 1962.

9 Cabinet was reshuffled in Uttar Pradesh. Rajendra Tripathi was assigned Irrigation portfolio in exchange of his present Home portfolio, which he held as Minister of State. Home Minister, Swarup Kumari Bakshi, will now function independent of any Minister of State. Ram Ratan Singh, who was holding Irrigation portfolio, has been given the charge of Parliamentary Affairs and Panchayati Raj. Ranjit Singh Judeo, who was Minister of State for Public Works Department, has been given the additional charge of Government Estates.

— C.P. Ravindernath, Indian High Commissioner to Fiji, has been accredited to Tonga with residence in Suva.

— Eighteen persons were killed and 58 seriously injured,

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when a bomb exploded at the busy Fatesil Ambari Bazar at Gauhati.

June 9 Election Commission issued the notification setting forth the time table for the Presidental election. It said that the last date for filling nomination by candidates is June 23, the date for scrutiny is June 24 and the deadline for withdrawals is June 26. Polling, if necessary, will be held on July 12 and the counting of votes will take place on July 15, after a gap of three days to enable the ballot boxes to reach Delhi from the far-off Capitals of States and Union Territories. The result of the election is required to be declared before July 18. President Sanjiva Reddy's terms expires on July 24 and the new President will assume office on July 25.

— Eleven persons were killed when a truck ran over them at Kalar village on Faridkot-Amritsar road, 80 km from Phagwara.

— Nearly 68 lakh people spread over 98 blocks of seven districts in Orrisa were affected and as many as 157 people were killed by the cyclone on 3rd June, according to the latest figures available with Government.

— Rajendra Kumar Rai, India's Ambassador to Zaire, has been concurrently accredited to Gabon and Guinea with residence in Kinshasa.

— Twelve persons, including the driver, were killed and 36 injured when a bus of the Kumaon motor operations union rolled into a deep khud in the sult block of Ranikhet tehsil.

10 A division bench of the Bombay High Court comprising Justice S.K. Desai and Justice B.J. Rele not only dismissed with cost the appeal of the State (Maharashtra) Government and former Chief Minister, A.R. Antulay, in the cement case but passed more severe strictures against him. Their lordships delivered separate judgements but reached the common conclusion that A.R. Antualy has misused his official position and had violated rules. Justice Rele found that there was undoubtedly "capricious allotment of cement by Mr. Antulay". A.R. Antulay's denial through his affidavit about allotment of cement by him was rejected. The appeal had been filed by the State and Antulay against the verdict of Justice Lentin of Bombay High Court that there was direct relations between the allotment of cement and donations made by a number of persons to the trusts floated by Antulay.

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June 10 M. Dubey was appointed India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations agencies in Geneva.

— Youth Congress (I) President, Gulam Nabi Azad and General Secretary, Vinod Sharma, who returned after meetings with youth leaders in Cyprus, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, had signed joint protocols in Cyprus and Bulgaria, which took note of the breakdown of detente in Europe and the international situation. These protocols provided for the exchange of published materials between the Youth wings of ruling political parties and exchange of cultural troupes. The protocols indicated inrerest in setting up committees to establish contacts with youth organisations in other countries, stressed the need for disarmament and urged the quest for peace and econamic justice.

11 Mirza Mohammad Afzal Beg, former Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir and Vice President of the ruling National Conference till 1978, when he was ousted by the Chief Minister Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah, died.

— Seven persons were killed and 21 injured in clashes between Harijans and caste Hindus in Poliangudi area in Sankarankoil taluk of Tirunelveli district (Madras).

12 Democratic Socialist Party leader Raj Narain started a hunger strike in Chandigarh in support of his demands for dismissal of the Bhajan Lal Government (Haryana) and dissolution of the State Legislative Assembly. He was protesting against the manner in which Bhajan Lal Ministry was sworn-in. Fasting Raj Narain was arrested on 17th June and lodged in a private ward of Chandigarh general hospital. The arrest was made for "attempt to commit suicide". Raj Narain described his arrest as "barbarous, illegal and unconstitutional" and said that the charge against him is wrong as he never stated that he is undertaking "fast unto death". On 18th June, Punjab and Haryana High Court quashed the case registered against Raj Narain for attempt to commit suicide and set him free. On 20th June, Raj Narain ended "indefinite hunger strike". He claimed that his fast has succeeded in "bestirring the conscience of the people to the injustice perpetrated by the Governor in installing Bhajan Lal as Chief Minister in illegal manner."

— India has been renominated to serve on the board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy (IAEA) for the 27th year in succession.

15 The "F.U.S.—Mrightuni Expedition of the Delhi Moun-

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taineering Association put nine atop the 22490 ft. Garhwal Himalaya peak setting a mountaineerin record.

June 15 Gloom struck a marriage party when at least 20 of its members were killed after a truck carrying them slipped into a roadside ditch at Kopa village, 8 km from Chapra (Bihar).

— The World Bank consortium decided to extend development assistance to India totalling $ 3.66 billion for the year 1982-83.

16 President Sanjiva Reddy appointed R.R. Trivedi as the new Chief Election Commissioner. He succeeds S.L. Shakdher, who completes his five year term on 17 June.

— The fully air conditioned Rajdhani Express fitted with airbrakes was flagged off on its maiden run from Delhi to Bombay by the Vice President M. Hidayatullah at a special function held in New Delhi.

17 In a letter to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi leaders of Opposition Parties suggested that Vice President M. Hidayatullah "offers a very good choice for a concensus candidate" for the Presidency. The letter said that they are of the "considered opinion that the Vice President has the first claim to the Presidency unless he is considered unsuitable otherwise or unless there is a candidate, who is generally held to be better". It said that they have not sounded M. Hidayatullah before proposing his name because we believe that the consensus candidate should be approached "appropriately by the leader of the Ruling Party". The signaturies of the letter included Charan Singh (Lok Dal), Jagjivan Ram (Congress-J), A.B. Vajpayee (BJP), E.M.S. Namboodiripad (CPM), Indradeep Sinha (Janata), H.N. Bahuguna (DSP), Prakash Singh Badal (Akali Dal), Ambica Soni (Congress-S) and Chitta Basu (Forward Block). In her reply to the letter, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi informed the Opposition leaders that she will place their view on the issue of choice of a Presidential candidate before her Party's Central Parliamentary Board.

— Malkhan Singh; the dacoit chief with a prize of Rs. 70,000 on his head, laid down his arms before the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Arjun Singh, along with 19 other gang members.

— The renowned Jain Saint, Upadaya Sharma Sri Phul Chandji, died in Ludhiana. He was 69. Sant Sharma was the second head of the "All World Jain Community" and head of Jains of North India. He was also a

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scholar of Prakrit and Sanskrit. He belonged to Singrana of Himachal Pradesh.

June 18 India's national record holder for 5,000 metres track event, Raj Kumar, stole the show by winning a gold medal at the 1982 Beijing International Athletic Invitation Tournament although his timing was 0.69 seconds more than 14 minutes he had established in November last year.

— Police used teargas and resorted to lathicharge to disperse a violent mob of Akali Dal (Longowal) workers' who allegedly set fire to four shops in Patiala. Akali Dal (L) had given a call for observance of "blackday" in protest against "police excesses against Sikhs" in connection with the arrest of certain extremists. Akali workers, led by Sardar Singh Kohli, took out a procession in defiance of prohibitory orders.

— The Uttar Pradesh Minister of State for General Administration and Planning and Minister in charge of Garhwal divison, Gulab Singh's resignation came in the wake of reported illegal cultivatian of poppy on his family farms in Dehra Dun district and a raid conducted on the farm by a team of officers of the Narcotics department.

19 Film actress Jayalakshmi, who was admitted to the Royapettah hospital after consuming an overdose of sleeping pills, died.

— A two day State Law Ministers conference ended in New Delhi with a decision to appoint a sub committee to examine the question of rationalisation of court fees. Union Minister of State for Law, Justice and Company Affairs, A.A. Rahim, was appointed convenor of the sub committee with the Law Ministers of U.P., West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Haryana as members. The sub committee has been asked to submit its report within four months. The establishment of an All India Judicial service was also generally favoured by the conference.

20 Gurbachan Singh, a national weightlifting coach, passed away after injuries received in a scooter accident, the previous evening.

— Twelve persons were killed and 75 injured when 8 coahes of the 3 Up Assam Mail jumped the rails between Narayanpur and Bihpur stations on the North Eastern Railway's Katihar-Barauni section. Railways sources said that seven bodies were extricated from the train's

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dining car which was totally smashed. Two of the bodies fell into a ditch. Of the 12 killed, three succumbed to their injuries on way to the Katihar hospital.

June 21 — The Combined Opposition chose veteran Communist Parliamentarian, Hiren Mukherjee, as their candidate for the Presidentship of India.

— Congress (I) Central Parliamentary Board, at its meeting attended among others by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, chose Union Home Minister Giani Zail Singh as the Party's candidate for the Presidentship of India. It was for the first time that a member of the Sikh Community was tipped for being the country's President. The Defence Minister, R. Venkataraman, was to hold temporarily charge of the Home Ministry, consequent to the resignation of Zail Singh.

— The engine driver and two firemen of 8 Down Tinsukia Mail were killed when its engine along with first three bogies derailed from Seleghat, about 386 km from Gauhati.

— India's Ambassador to Poland, M.R. Sivaramkrishna, has been appointed High Commissioner to Canada. He replaced G.S. Dhillon. It was officially announced in New Delhi. Mr. Mukchund Dubey, High Commissioner to Bangladesh, has been appointed India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations at Geneva. He replaced A.P. Venketeshvaran. Mrs. Manorama Bhalla, Secretary of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations, has been appointed as Ambassador to Denmark. She replaced Prem Shanker.

— President Sanjiva Reddy appointed former Finance Minister, Y.B. Chavan, as Chairman of the Eighth Finance Commission. The Commission will suggest the pattern of distribution of revenues to the States arising from income tax, excise duties and custom levies, besides grant in aid under Article 275 of the Constitution. The devolution of funds to the States through the Commission's recommendations will be apart from what they would get as assistance towards plan programmes. The award of the Commission will cover the five year period 1984-85 to 1988-89. The Commission was asked to submit its report by October 31, 1983. Other four members of the Commission are Sabyasachi Mukherji, C.H. Hanumantha Rao, G.C. Baveja and A.R. Sherali.

— Three contracts for the construction of the first stage of the 1260 megawatt Vindhyachal Thermal Power Station at Vaidhan were signed in Moscow by the

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National Thermal Power Corporation of India Chairman, A.K. Shah, and the Chairman of the Soviet Technical Industrial Equipment Export Organisation, U.V. Smelyunov.

June 22 — The Combined Opposition decided to field H.R. Khanna, a former judge of the Supreme Court, as its Presidential candidate. The substitution became inevitable since Hiren Mukherjee's name was not in the electoral list of Delhi.

— Commerce Minister, Shivraj Patil, leading a high powered delegation in London to discuss Indo British economic cooperation, called for higher level of British investment in India, claiming that measures had been taken to liberalise the Indian economy with a view to providing greater flexibility to entrepreneur.

— Documents for a World Bank loan of $ 304.5 million for the third rural electrification projects in India were signed in Washington by the Indian Ambassador to USA, K.R. Narayanan and the Regional Vice President of the Bank, David Hopper.

— The film producer and former President of the Indian Motion Pictures Producers Association (IMPPA), Jaimoni Dewan,died at Jaslok hospital after a heart attack. He was 71.

— Former Chief Minister of Gujarat, Babubhai Patel, resigned from the Janata Party.

— Giani Zail Singh filed his nomination for the Presidential election. Shortly before he filed his nomination, Zail Singh resigned as Union Home Minister. Zail Singh's proposers including Indira Gandhi, Pranab Mukherjee, P.V. Narsimha Rao, R. Venkataraman, P.C. Sethi, P. Shiv Shankar, C.M. Stephen, A.P. Sharma, A.B.A. Ghani Khan Chowdhury, Bhishma Narain Singh and Vasant Sathe. H.R. Khanna also field his nomination for the Presidential election as the candidate of the combined Opposition. The proposers of Khanna's nomination included Jagjiwan Ram, Charan Singh, Chitta Basu, Dinesh Goswami and Indrajit Gupta.

— India and Pakistan have amicably sorted out an outstanding issue concerning the total irrigated agricultural area in Jammu and Kashmir that should be provided water from the three western rivers of the Indus, the Jhelum and the Chenab under the Indus treaty of 1960. The issue in dispute for the last 22 years was settled to the satisfaction of both sides at the meeting of the joint Indus Treaty Commission held recently. However,

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official sources denied that the settlement of the dispute implied any fresh agreement between the two countries.

June 22 The Indian Army added one more feather to its cap when a team of gentlemen cadets at the Indian Military Academy (IMA) scored a double by conquering two peaks, Abi Gaman (7345 meters) and Kamet (7756 metres) in the Garhwal Himalayas.

— Ninteen persons were feared dead after an Air India Boeing 707, flying from Singapore via Madras with 99 passengers and a crew of 12 crashed on landing in blinding rain at Bombay airport in a pre dawn mishap. Twenty four passengers were sent to various hospitals for treatment of injuries with at least two of them reportedly in a serious condition. India's top nuclear scientist D. Raja Ramanna and a sinior journalist from "Hindu" of Madras, T.V. Anantharao Seshan, escaped unhurt after the aricraft split into three at the edge of the runway.

— Supreme Court refused to stay a Bombay High Court Judgement asking the State Governor to decide on its own the issue of sanctioning prosecution of A.R. Antulay under the Prevention of Corruption Act for his role in the cement scandal case while he was the Chief Minister of Maharashtra.

— Thirteen person were killed and a child was injured when a two storey building collapsed due to heavy rains at Chalisgaon, about 91 km from Jalgaon.

23 The combined public rally of eight Political Parties: Lok Dal, BJP, Janata, CPI, CPI(M), Akali Dal, Congress (J) and Congress (S) at Chandigarh held under the auspices of the "Save Democracy Sangharsh Samiti", demanded the immediate dismissal of the Bhajan Lal Ministay (Haryana) and restoration of democratic values in the State. More than 100 persons, including 50 policemen were injured, seven of them seriously, when the police lathi charged a section of the procession organised by the "Save Democracy Sangharsh Samiti", which threw brick bats and jumped barricades put upon the road leading to State Assembly. The rally was organised to protest against the "illegal installation" of Bhajan Lal Government in Haryana.

— It was officially stated that Prof. Rais Ahmed of Physics Department of Aligarh Muslim University, has been appointed Vice Chairman of the University Grants Commission.

— About 220 supporters of the Democratic Socialist Party

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(DSP), including 23 women, courted arrest at the Boat Club lawns to protest against the swearing in of Congress (I) (Bhajan Lal) Government in Haryana.

June 23 A young textile mill worker tried to shoot Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Babasaheb Bhosle, at Dadar in Bombay, but did not succeed in his bid as his country made pistol failed to go off. The accussed was arrested. He told the police that he has no link with any Union.

24 Congress (I) nominee, Zail Singh and the combined Opposition candidate, H.R. Khanna, had a straight fight for the Presidentship. The nomination of all the other 34 aspirants was rejected by the Returning Officer, Sudarshan Agarwal, during scurtiny.

— Former General Secretary of the Congress (S), Tarkeshwari Sinha, announced her resignation from the Party and the decision to join the Democratic Socialist Party. She felt her joining the DSP would facilitate the process of integration of all genuine Congressmen.

— Karnataka Legislature resolved to make Kannada the sole first language in schools in the State heralding a new language policy. The House adopted the resolution unanimously though four members of the Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti were earlier suspended by rhe Speaker for the day when they staged a dharna protesting against the resolution.

— M.M. Jacob (Congress-I) and K. Gopalan (Janata-G), both candidates of the ruling United Democratic Front and K. Mohanan (CPI-M) put up by the Left Democratic Front, were declared elected to the Rajya Sabha from Kerala. They, being the only three candidates for the biennial elections to fill the three seats in the Rajya Sabha from the State, were elected without a poll.

— V.S. Thirumalai, Chief Advertisement Manager of "Times of India group" of publications, died after a heart attack. He was 55.

25 Bangla Desh Agriculture Minister, A.Z.M. Obaidullah Khan, arrived in New Delhi. He was leading a 10 member delegation for the Farakka talks. The talks began on 26th June. The talks were held for four days An official statement at the end of talks said that the augumentation of the flow of Ganga at Farakka in the lean months is for decision between the two Governments at a high political level. The two sides agreed that the sharing of the water at Farakka according to the formula evolved in 1977 has been satisfactory. But they differed on

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the impact of the sharing.

June 25 D.R. Khanna, one of the official members of the first Press Commission, died in New Delhi after a brief illness. He was 69.

— Five Standing Committees of the Rajya Sabha have been reconstituted by the Rajya Sabha Chairman, M. Hidayatullah, reported PTI. Under the reconstitution, Saroj Khaparde will head the House Committee, Ramanand Yadav-Committee on Petition, P. Ramamurti-Committee on Government Assurances, Bhai Mahavir-Committee on Subordinate Lagislation and Era Sezhiyan-Committee on Papers laid on the table of the House.

— In a swift joint action, the Kanpur and Etawah Police shot dead two of the seven dacoits who were fleeing with the cash they had earlier seized in the day from two branches of the Bank of Baroda in Kanpur. The two branches of the Bank were those in Fazalganj and Panki, which the gang robbed of a tolal sum of Rs. 2.49 lakh.

— Ramesh Chandra, Executive Director at the "The Times of India", was elected Chairman of the Press Trust of India. Rajendra Mathur, Editor, "Nai Dunia" Indore and V.P. Ramachandran, Editor, "Mathrubhaumi" (Kerala) were elected to the board of Directors of PTI in place of P.K. Roy of "Amrit Bazar Patrika" and Abid Ali Khan of "Siasat" (Hyderabad), who have retried.

— Three persons were killed on the spot and two others including the guard, were injured when 20 wagons of a Bhilai bound goods train derailed near Mahasamund, about 55 km from Raipur on the Raipur-Waltior section o. South Eastern Railway.

26 The Archbishop of Agra, Reverend Deminic Athaite, died. He was 73.

27 General K.V. Krishna Rao, Chief of Army Staff, arrived in Moscow on a week's ceremonial visit.

— Hiralal, veteran actor of Hindi films, died in Bombay. He was 72.

— Mother Teresa accepted the St. Boniface Hospital Research Foundations International Award before a cheering crowd of 20,000 at Winnipeg Stadium.

— Subodh Chandra Majumdar, Editor of "Siktara" and "Naba Kallol", children's and literary monthlies respecitvely, died of heart attack at his South Calcutta residence.

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He was 76.

June 27 . Vice Chancellor of Jodhpur University, Prof. M.M. Mehta, died of heart attack. He was 60.

— Seventeen people, including women and children, were gunned down in two U.P. villages. Remnants of the Mustaqueem gang attacked Yadav homes in the village of Dastipur in Kanpur Dehat district at dead of night and chose 11 Yadavs to gun down. Among the dead were four women and two children.

— Ten persons died and an undetermined number of people were injured when a truck carrying them overturned near Kalanaur (Rohtak).

28 66 year old freedom fighter and social worker, Vishnu Prasad Agrawal, died in Raipur.

— Rs. 1.78 lakhs was looted by dacoits from a nationalised bank in South Calcutta at the point of the gun in broad daylight.

— Russi Billimoria has been appointed Part time Chairman of the Indian Airlines Corporation for two years.

— The second cricket test between India and England ended in a draw after rain prevented play on the final day.

— Thomas Abraham, presently High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka, has been appointed Ambassador to Switzerland.

— U.P. Chief Minister resigned after a massacre by dacoits. Governor, C.P.N. Singh accepted the resignation of the State Chief Minister, V.P. Singh and asked him to continue in office till alternative arrangements are made. The resignation followed the massacre of 17 villagers of Kanpur and Mainpuri districts by dacoits. The Chief Minister said he has not consulted the Central Congress (I) leadership about his action. He added, it is my decision based on the dictates of my conscience. The news of resignation came as a surprise to the Central leadership, who were of the opinion that V.P. Singh ought not to have handed over his resignation without consulting the Congress (I) High Command.

29 Justic A.P. Sen of the Supreme Court observed that the Governor is "completely immune" from the jurisdiction of courts and the Supreme Court cannot ask a Governor to withhold his assent to a Bill. He made these remarks

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when a writ petition challenging the Kashmir Resettlement Bill came up for hearing before him. He said that the Bill cannot be challenged even before it becomes an Act. The petition filed by Bhim Singh, MLA, was allowed to be withdrawn after arguments advanced by the petitioner.

June 29 Laxman Madhav Khandkar, a founder of the Communist movement in Madhya Pradesh and Editor of "Badhta Karwan" died in Indore. He was 67.

30 Five people were killed and 20 iniured in a collision between a Chopan-Mirzapur passenger train and a diesel engine. The condition of the 17 of the injured was stated to be serious.

— India will get grants totaling Rs. 4.61 crores from the U.S. for two projects under agreement signed in New Delhi. One of the agreements provides for a grant of $ 5 million (Rs. 4.50 crores) for activities for alternative energy resources development. The second agreement for a grant of $ 125,000 (Rs. 11.25 lakhs) relates to HUDCO shelter design and analysis. This is to assist HUDCO in promoting and expanding the supply of low-income shelter in India by developing a package of micro-computer based models and programmes for shelter projects identification and financial planning.

— Kumkum Natarajan, DMK MP, representing the Peryakulam Constituency of Tamil Nadu, passed away following a heart attack. He was 43.

— One more dacoit gang of the Chambal revines, Kalyan Singh, surrendered at a ceremony in Bhind presided over by H.M, Joshi, Madhya Pradesh Inspector-General of Police (anti-dacoity).

— Prabhat Vidyarthi, veteran freedom fighter, died in New Delhi. He was 72.

— The Public Accounts Committee of the Karnataka Legislature unearthed a scandal involving Chief Minister Gundu Rao himself. In its report on the working of the Forest Department submitted to the House, the Committee cited one of "favourtism" on the part of the Chief Minister towards some private industries causing the Exchequer a loss of Rs. 17 crores.

July 1 A convention for the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes of income has been entered into between India and Libya. It

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took effect from May 29, 1982, which is the date of notification of the convention.

July 1 Educationist and former M.P., Sarangdhar Sinha, died in Patna. He was 84. A veteran freedom fighter, Sinha was elected to the Bihar Assembly in 1937 and appointed Parliamentary Secretary in the Education Department. He was a member of the provisional Parliament and was elected to the Lok Sabha in 1952 and 1957. He was a former Vice Chancellor of Patna and Ranchi University.

— India signed a cultural exchange programme with Iraq. The agreement covered a wide range of activities in the fields of education, culture, science, mass media, sports, youth and tourism.

— Iraqi Foreign Minister, Sandoun Hammadi, arrived in New Delhi and discussed with the External Affairs Minister the Iran-Iraq war and the arrangements for the seventh summit of non-aligned countries due to begin in Baghdad on September 6. On 2nd July Iraqi Foreign Minister concluded his two day visit to India. Earlier, he called on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and handed over to her Iraqi President's invitation to attend the seventh non-aligned summit to be held in Baghdad next September. The Prime Minister accepted the invitation.

— Jayant Rikhye, ranked number 12 among juniors in India, scored his first major international triump, winning the International Tennis Federation Tournament for Juniors in Antwerpen (Belgium) in third week of June, according to reports reaching here.

— Lt. Gen. H.C. Dutta was appointed GOC-in-C Central Command.

— Lt. Gen S.K. Sinha, GOC-in-C Western Command took over as the Vice Chief of Army Staff.

— Mrs. Tarkeshwari Sinha, who recently joined the All India Democratic Socialist Party, has been appointed General Secretary of the Party.

— Posts and Telegraph Department issued a commemorative stamp in honour of late Bengal Chief Minister, B.C. Roy, on the occasion of his birth centenary.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced a downward revision of the rupee by 0.30 per cent in relation to the pound sterling. The spot buying and selling rates were so fixed to give a new middle rate of Rs. 16.55 compared to the earlier rate of Rs. 16.50.

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July 2 Dwarkanath Tewari, a leading Trade Union leader and a former Congress MP, died of a massive heart attack at his house in Silcher. He was 64.

— Nearly 180,000 people, mostly low income farmers and landless labourers, in Madhya Pradesh will benefit from a $ 25 million loan from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to help increase agricultural production through irrigation. The loan was signed by IFAD President Abdel Muhsin M. Al-Sudeary and the Indian Ambassador to Italy, J.C. Ajmani, last week.

3 India took third position with two gold and two silver medals in the tenth Asian Amateur Boxing championship held in Seoul.

— Pandit Bharat Vyas, a noted film lyricist, died in Bombay after a prolonged illness. He was 65.

— Ten persons, including a woman, were killed and 50 others were injured when two private buses collided head-on at Kalipettai, 35 km from Salem on the Salem-Haruru road (Madras).

4 The 150 line maintenance technicians at the domestic air terminal at Bombay airport who went on a lightning strike on 2nd July called off their agitation. The strikers owing allegiance to the All India Aircraft Technicians Association were demanding that one of their men should be taken on the Airbus on the recently introduced Bombay-Kuala Lampur-Singapore sector operated by Air India. A management spokesman for the IA said there was no provision to include a technician on the crew.

5 Four persons were killed and 12 others seriously injured when the police opened fire thrice to quell violent anti Gokak Committee report agitators who stoned vehicles and damaged railway track at Kolar Gold Fields, about 100 km from Bangalore (Karnataka).

— An official press note said, Dr. Y. Nayudamma, Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, has been appointed as a Governor of the International Development Research Centre.

— Officials of the Union Agriculture Ministry and the FAO representative in India, Dr. J.C. Rameau, signed an agreement in New Delhi under which the FAO will extend aid worth $ 128,000 to India for a new project to step up the production of forage regume seeds in the rain fed northern hill States.

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July 5 President N. Sanjiva Reddy appointed Chinthala Sriamullau Tetala Lakshmanarayana Reddy and Pamidighamtam Kodandaramyayya to be additional Judges, at the Andhra Pradesh High Court for a period of two years.

— Raj Kesri, a veteran film journalist at Delhi, died. He was 54.

— Raja Bhalindra Singh, President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), has been chosen for the 1982 international distinguished service award by the United States Sports Academy according to a cable received from the President of the United States Sports Academy.

— Rajendra Kumar Rai, Ambassador to Zaire, has been concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Congo with residence in Kinshasa.

— Surendra K. Arora has been appointed India's Ambassador to Poland. It was officially announced.

6 Former Indian Ambassador to Somalia, Thambi Srinivasan, died following a heart attack. He was 61.

— M.R. Sivaramakrishnan, Ambassador to Poland, has been posted as High Commissioner to Canada succeeding G.S. Dhillon.

— Prof. Bijitendra Nath Ghosh, Director of the School of Planning and Architecture (New Delhi), died following a massive heart attack. A leading planner and a prominent educationist, Prof. Ghosh was 53.

— S. Bangarappa, former President of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress (I) Committee and three other legislators from the dissident group in the Party resigned from the Congress (I) because of ideological differences.

7 A new English daily, the "Telgraph" hit the news stands in Calcutta. This is edited by M. J. Akbar.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced an upward revision of rupee by 0.61 per cent in relation to the pound sterling, making sterling cheaper by 10 paise. The spot buying and selling rates were so fixed as to give a new middle rate of Rs. 16.50 compared to the previous rate of Rs. 16.60.

— Seven armed youth looted Rs. 13 lakhs from the Ultadanga (Calcutta) branch of United Bank of India.

8 Hundreds of workers from the city (Delhi) and surround-

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ing areas staged a rally at Boat Club in protest against the "anti labour bills" introduced in the last session of Parliament and to demand their withdrawal. The workers belonging to the National Campaign Committee of seven Trade Unions had gathered at the Ferozshah Kotla Grounds and marched to Boat Club in the blazing sun, carrying red flags and shouting slogans.

July 8 — The International Development Association (IDA) has approved a credit to SDR 63.8 million (about Rs. 64 crore) to the Government of India for a water supply and sewerage project in the Gujarat State.

— Katherine Mary Heilaman, Sarvodaya worker and a disciple of Mahatma Gandhi and popularly known as Sarla Behn, died in Almora. She was 82. Sarla Behn has authored the famous book "Reviving Our Dying Planet".

— Yosef Hassen, Israli Consul in Bombay, has been declared *persona non grate* and ordered to leave India within 48 hours. The decision followed some statements made by him in an interview to a Bombay weekly. According to an official spokesman, these statements were highly objectionable and not in consonance with his diplomatic functions. These statements also amounted to unacceptable interference in the affairs of India.

9 — Inder Pal Khosla, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs and at present on deputation to the National Defence College as senior directing staff, has been appointed High Commissioner to Bangladesh.

— The veteran film story and lyric writer, D. N. Madhok, died at Hyderabad following a heart attack. He was 80. Mr. Madhok was associated with the success of scores of Hindi films made during the 1940s and 1950s including "Rattan".

11 — Surya Narayan Das, Founder President of the Journalist Association (Orissa), died in Pune. Pandit Das, an eminent litterateur and columnist of Orissa, was a bachelor. He was 80.

— The World Bank will give Rs. 126 crore assistance to Madhya Pradesh for the implementation of 19 medium irrigation projects with a total irrigation capacity of nearly two lakh hectares.

12 — Acharya Vishwanath Prasad Mishra, renowned Hindi litterateur and critic, died in Varanasi. He was 76.

— I.M. Pai, a leading industrialist of Karnataka, died in

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Bombay after a prolonged illness. He was 71.

July 12 Kuwait granted a soft loan of 14.3 million Kuwaiti Dinars for the multi billion dollar Thal Vaishet fertiliser projects in Maharashtra. An agreement to this effect was signed at Kuwait. The loan is to be repaid with an interest rate of 3.5 per cent. The first instalment will be due on May 1, 1987 and the last on November 1, 2006. Provision has been made for a grace period of five years.

— The Maharashtra Dalit Panther President, Gangadhar Gade, was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Vilas Shinde murder case (Aurangabad). Seven other accused were also sentenced to life imprisonment by the Additional Session Judge, V.D. Sangvai. Vilas Shinde, a clerk in science college of the Peoples Education Society, was murdered on August 30 last.

— Misfortune struck a group of 15 fisher folk sailing back home from Pradip in Orissa when their mechanised boat capsized off the Visakhapatnam coast.

— Om Prakash Mahajan (Ind) was declared elected to the Haryana Assembly from Hissar, defeating nearest Janata Party rival, Baldev Tayal by 3,570 votes. With the declaration of this result, the Party wise position in the 90 member House is Congress (I) 51, Lok Dal 31, BJP 6 and Congress(J) and Independents one each.

— There was brisk and heavy polling in the Presidential elections and indications were that Zail Singh, Congress (I) nominee, will have a comfortable majority over his only rival, H.K. Khanna.

13 At least 20 persons were feared drowned in a boat accident near Simra village in Mirzapur district according to reports reaching Varanasi.

— Third and final cricket test between India and England ended in a draw at the Oval in London.

14 An air force plane crashed at Meerpur near Sirsa (Haryana) killing one of the two pilots.

— Chief Minister of Sikkim, Nar Bahadur Bhandari, announced reshuffling of the Cabinet whereby works of identical nature have been grouped together to ensure better coordination of activities.

— The Constitution (46th Amendment) Bill, which seeks to plug loopholes in the collection of Central Sales Tax, was passed by the Lok Sabha with 377 members voting for it

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and 8 against.

July 14 Dr. R. Vishwanathan, founder Director of the Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, died in New Delhi. He was 83.

— A Himachal Pradesh State Transport Corporation bus carrying 50 persons and going from Sawat in Kulu district to Kalka hurtled down the road into Sutlej river near Luri village. There were no traces of any bodies or the bus which was washed away in the fast flowing river.

— The Lok Sabha passed the Eye (authority for use for therapeutic purposes) Bill which provides for the use of eyes of deceased persons for corneal graft.

— Uttar Pradesh Assembly Speaker, Shripat Misra, was chosen by the Congress (I) High Command to take over as Chief Minister in place of V.P. Singh who resigned on June 28. Shripat Misra, a former Minister, has won considerable praise for his performance as the Speaker of the Assembly.

15 The Bihar Governor, A.R. Kidwai, said he had "voluntarilly" quited the Chairmanship of Bihar Urdu Academy.

— Congress (I) candidate, Giani Zail Singh, was declared as the seventh President of the Republic of India with an impressive margin of 4,71,428 valid votes over his only rival, H.R. Khanna, fielded by the combined Opposition. Zail Singh succeeds the outgoing President N. Sanjiva Reddy. In an electoral College consisting of 738 MPs and 3,600 MLAs, Zail Singh secured the support of 528 MPs and 2,644 MLAs and H.R. Khanna of 210 MPs and 956 MLAs. While Zail Singh polled 7,54,113 valid votes representing 72.7 per cent of 10,36,798 total valid votes, his rival secured 2,82,685 valid votes which work out to 27.3 per cent. Zail Singh had a convincing lead in all States except West Bengal and Tripura, the two Opposition ruled States. 58 votes were declared invalid, with the States accounting for 46 votes and the Parliament for 12.

— The Lok Sabha passed the Ear Drums and Ear Bones (authority for use for therapeutic purposes) Bill providing for the use of these after death for the benefit of people needing such grafts.

— The Public Wakf Amendment Bill, which seeks to give more time for Delhi Wakf Board to file claims against

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illegal occupation of its various immovable properties, was passed by Rajya Sabha.

July 16 At least 10 persons were killed following a roof fall in a colliery in the Central Coal Fileds in Hazaribagh district of Bihar.

— Begum Anees Kidwai, a former member of Parliament, died in New Delhi. She was 71.

18 Amrik Singh Cheema, agricultural expert and former Vice Chancellor of Punjab Agricultural University (Ludhiana), died of a heart attack in Tanzania.

— According to an official release issued in New Delhi, twenty eight organisations of political nature, including the Congress (I) youth bodies, have been debarred from accepting any foreign contribution without the prior permission of the Government. The ban has been imposed under section 5(1) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976. Any violation of this is punishable under the law by imprisonment or fine or both.

— Eleven people were killed on the spot when a Uttar Pradesh Roadways bus of Banda depot collided with a jeep between Chhawni and Basti.

— Shripat Misra was unanimously elected leader of the UP Congress (I) Legislature Party. The name was proposed by the outgoing Chief Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh and seconded by several Ministers. Immediately after his election, Shripat Misra resigned from the Speakership of the Vidhan Sabha. On 19 July, a 25 member Uttar Pradesh Ministry headed by Shripat Misra was swornin by the State Governor C.P.N. Singh.

— Unseeded Ramesh Krishnan won the 75,000 dollar Grand Prix Tennis Tournament held in Stuttgart (West Germany). He defeated top seeded Sady Mayer.

19 Ten children, all below five years, of the Kindergarden school attached to the St. Paul's English medium school in Trichur, were killed and 32 injured, 15 seriously, when the school's seeond storey under construction collapsed.

— Coal India has initiated an agreement with British Mining Consultants for the supply of about Rs. 100 crores worth of equipment for the Amoloni coal mine which is linked to the super thermal power station at Rihand to be built by British firms. The British Government will provide

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Rs. 49.5 crores as aid to finance the equipment and the remainder will by covered by British Government guaranteed export credits.

July 19 Silendra Narayan Bhanj Deo, former Minister of Orissa, died in Cuttack. He was 78.

20 Mira Behn, well known disciple of Mahatma Gandhi, who was given this year Padma Vibhushan award, passed away in Vienna. She was 90. Born as Madeleine Slade in England in 1892, Mahatma Gandhi gave her the name of Mira Behn in view of her complete dedication to India. Throughout her stay in India, she identified herself with the cultural values and political aspirations of the country.

— Ten Indian nationals, including a woman, held in Pakistani prison for seven to nine years without trial, arrived in New Delhi. They told correspondents that they were tortured, given bad food and forced to work for long hours during detention.

21 As a sequel to a press report that Haryana Lok Dal Chief Devi Lal had a secret meeting with the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on July 19, Charan Singh suspended him from the Primary membership of the Party pending his expulsion if he failed to give by July 25 satisfactory replies to sepecific charges made against him. Despite Devi Lal's strongly worded denial that he had sought an interview with the Prime Minister, Charan Singh in a letter to Devi Lal said that he did not doubt the veracity of the press report that he had a secret meeting with Indira Gandhi. On 22nd July Prime Minister's office categorically denied that Indira Gandhi had met the Haryana Lok Dal leader Devi Lal as reported in a newspaper.

— At a function organised by members of both Houses of Parliament in the Central Hell, a befitting farewell was accorded to the outgoing President N. Sanjiva Reddy. On behalf of the Members of Parliament, Lok Sabha Speaker Balram Jakhar read out a commemorative address to President Reddy, eulogising his services as a public man and Parliamentarian. The speaker also presented a scroll of honour to the President. In his reply, President Reddy said that during his political career, he always sought the support of his opponents and endeavoured to strive to stand by certain values. The function was attended, among others, by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Vice President Hidayatullah, Cabinet Ministers, Opposition leaders and a few chosen guests of the President.

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July 21 Dr. C.D. Datey, Executive Director of Reserve Bank, died in a car accident in Dar-es-Salam, Tanzania. He was 65. Dr. Datey, who was in charge of the agricultural credit department of the Reserve Bank, had been on an IMF assignment as economic adviser to the Bank of Tanzania since 1977.

— Kifayatullah, a veteran hockey player and an associate of hockey wizard Dhyan Chand, died after a prolonged illness. He was 70.

22 The Government announced in the two Houses of Parliament payment of an additional instalment of dearness allowance to its employees with effect from April 1. This will cost the exchequer Rs. 84.17 crores during the current financial year.

— The President elect Zail Singh has resigned his Lok Sabha membership. He represented the Hoshiarpur Constituency in Punjab. Lok Sabha Speaker Balram Jakhar accepted his resignation.

— The Union Government decided to extend President's rule in Assam by another six months and, in the meantime, made preparations for holding elections to Assam Assembly. The validity of the present proclamation of President's rule in Assam is upto September 18. This was being extended for a further period of six months upto March 18, 1983, with the approval of Parliament.

23 Noted plant physiologist. Prof. G.V. Joshi, Dean and Head of the Botany Department of Shivaji University, died of a heart attack. He was 57.

24 Lehna Singh Tur, lone Akali Dal (L) M.P., has resigned from Party membership as well as his seat in Lok Sabha. He said he has resigned in protest against what he calls "indifferent attitude" of Party leaders towards a dispute between Party workers and management committee of Gurdwara Darbar Sahib at Taran Taran near Amritsar.

— On the eve of laying down his office as President of India, N. Sanjiva Reddy expressed his dissatisfaction at the country's political scenario. In a farewell broadcast to the Nation, he expressed concern at the conduct of public affairs in the country and warned those in power and authority that people whose disillusionment is daily growing, would not aecept it for long if we make a mockery of it. He made an impassionate plea to political leaders to strive for emergence of a united responsible and effcctive Opposition. He reminded them that an alert Opposition is the only safeguard against misrule.

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Former President N. Sanjiva Reddy was given an affectionate and ceremonial farewell at Palam airport as he left for his home town in Andhra Pradesh. He was escorted by Union Minister for Civil Aviation, A.P. Sharma. He was seen off at the airport among others by the new President Zail Singh, Vice President Hidayatullah, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, her cabinet colleagues, Speaker of the Lok Sabha Balram Jakhar, the three Service Chiefs and a number of MP's from different parties.

July 25 Zail Singh, 66, was sworn-in as President of the Republic of India by Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud at a glittering ceremony in the Durbar Hall of the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Soon after taking oaths of Office, Zail Singh exchanged seats with the outgoing President N. Sanjiva Reddy. The function was attended among others by Vice President Hidayatullah, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Speaker Lok Sabha Balram Jakhar, Members of Council of Ministers, Members of Parliament and diplomats. Following a 21 gun salute in honour of the New President, Zail Singh took salute at an inter services guard of honour and then retired to the Rashtrapati Bhavan. In his first address to the nation minutes after sworn-in, President Zail Singh made a solemn pledge that he would discharge his duties as a servant of the nation and without fear or favour and would live upto the highest and noble tradition of his predecessors.

26 All the six Opposition members of the Rajya Sabha who were members of Parliament's Public Accounts Committee and the Committee on Public Undertakings (CPU) tendered their resignation from these Committees in protest against the ruling of the Rajya Sabha Chairman, M. Hidayatullah that the Rajya Sabha members did not have equal rights with Lok Sabha members on Parliamentary Committees. Manubhai Patel (Janata), S.W. Dhabe (Congress-S) and J. P. Mathur (BJP), resigned from the CPU and Kalyan Roy (CPI), D. Satyanarayana Reddy (LD) and Nirmal Chatterjee (CPI-M) from the PAC. In their letter of resignation addressed to the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, the three CPU members observed, "As the ruling given today by the Chairman has resulted in devaluation of the Rajya Sabha and reduced the members of this House to that of a secondary status, we hereby refuse to serve on this Committee and tender our resignation". On 28th July Lok Sabha Speaker Balram Jakhar affirmed that the members of the Rajya Sabha in the Financial Committees of Parliament enjoy equal status with members of the Lok Sabha. He thus reversed the ruling of the Rajya Sabha Chairman, M. Hidayatullah. The Speaker

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quoted Jawaharlal Nehru to stress that there is no question of two grades of members and the Financial Committees of Parliament enjoy equal status with members of the Lok Sabha and observed that members from the Rajya Sabha have been a source of strength to the Financial Committees and have contributed greatly to the quality of their deliberations. Later on all six Opposition members withdrew their resignations in view of the ruling given by the Lok Sabha Speaker, Balram Jakhar.

July 26 At least 20 of a large group of pilgrims were swept away to their death by the onrush of water released suddenly from the DVC's Maithan dam in Damodar river at Burmpur Ghat in Asansol.

27 Dr. Vamanrao Narayan Prabalkar, noted harmonium player and a medical practioner, died at his residence in Pune. He was 76.

— EEC re-established custom duties on import of shawls, scarves, manillas, veils and similar objects, under category 84 from India. EEC spokesmen said, India, which benefits from EEC's generalised system of preferences, has used up its individual duty free quota for the current year and hence the re-establishment of duties.

— Justice Nani Gopal Chaudhuri, Justice Amitaba Dutta, Justice Sachindra Nath Sanyal and Justice Subhash Chandra Sen, Additional Judges of the Calcutta High Court have been appointed Judges of the High Court with effect from the date they assume charge of their respective offices.

— Lok Sabha passed the Estate Duty Amendment Bill, which seeks to give certain concessions in relation to estate duty and raises the exemption limit from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1.5 lakh with retrospective effect from March 1981.

— P.N. Verma, journalist and former Business Manager of the English daily, the "Tribunal" died in Chandigarh. He was 75. As a journalist, Mr. Verma had been associated with the "Hindu" of Madras for more than 20 years.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrived in New York bringing a "message of goodwill and friendship from India". She was received at the airport by Ambassador Selma Rossevelt, State Department's Chief of Protocol, Ambassador H. Barnes, India's envoy to Washington K.R. Narayan, New York city authorities and members of Indian community. She told newsmen that she hopes her visit would help in "increasing understanding"

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between the two countries. On 29th July, welcoming Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at a colourful ceremony at the White House, President Ronald Reagan said that as two strong, proud and independent nations, USA and India should try to weave together their common interests to a new and better understanding. A select gathering of Indians and Americans watched an inter services parade in honour of the Indian Prime Minister. President Reagan emphasised that nations could co-operate and establish secure and stable relationship with one another only on the basis of the perceived national interests. Peace in the Indian Ocean area, a peaceful solution to Afghanistan crisis, an equitable settlement of conflicting interest in the Middle East and an end to Iran-Iraq war were specifically mentioned by the President as matters which USA and India could discuss in the light of their goals and perceptions relating to the areas. Responding to these observations, the Prime Minister described her visit as "an adventnre in search of understanding and friendship" and suggested that while no two countries could have the same angle of vision, each could try to appreciate the point of view of others. On 29th July Prime Minister Indira Gandhi met President Reagan officially and conveyed to the President India's concern over US supply of sophisticated military equipment to Pakistan. She disputed the US justification for such aid because of Soviet presence in Afghanistan and observed that these arms are not going to be used against the Soviet Union. Both sides reached a series of agreements on scientific, cultural and economic matters. At the summit President Ronald Reagan and his top aides and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, discussed bilateral and international issues. Mrs. Gandhi also had a meeting with US senate Foreign Relations Committee and informed the members that India has no intention to manufacture atom bomb. She said India is trying through diplomatic channels to bring about Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan. On 29th July, President Reagan gave a State banquet in honour of Indira Gandhi. President Reagan accepted Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's invitation to pay a State visit to India. On 30th July Senator Edward Kennedy called on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. After a brief meeting with her, the Senator informed newsmen that they discussed international problems including Afghanistan and West Asia and Indo-US relations. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, addressed the National Press Club of Washington on 30th July. She declared that India has no nuclear weapons and wants to use nuclear energy for peaceful programmes like energy, agriculture and medicine. She made it clear that India is trying to be self reliant in arms production and diversifying its

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sources of supply. On 31st July Prime Minister addressed more than 2000 representatives of the Indian community in Washington.

July 28 Rajya Sabha enacted legislation declaring the Allahabad Haldia stretch of the Ganga Bhagirathi Hoogly river system a national water way. All sections of the House welcomed the National Waterway Bill, 1982 which also provides for regulation and development of the rivers for shipping and navigation on the waterways.

— Rajya Sabha passed the Eyes (authoriry for use for therapeutic purposes Bill 1980 and the Ear Drum and Ear Bones (authority for use for therapeutic purposes) Bill 1982, after a brief discussion.

— Surjit Singh Puri, till recently India's Ambassador to Belgium and the EEC has taken over as Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific in the Food and Agriculture Organisation at Bankok.

28 The 64 day old new Left Front Government, holding office for the second consecutive term in West Bengal, suffered a major setback with the resignation of six Cabinet Ministers belonging to the RSP and Forward Block.

— Ashok S. Chibb, presently India's Ambassador to Yugoslavia, has been appointed envoy to Nepal succeeding N.P. Jain.

— C.P. Ravindranathan, High Commissioner to Fiji, has been concurrently accredited to the Republic of Nauru.

— Five youths looted Rs. 1.6 lakhs at gun point from Allahabad Bank Branch in Meerut.

— Chief Minister of Manipur, Rishang Keihing, dismissed three Ministers from his 13 months old Cabinet. They were Radhabinod Singh, Holkholet Khonsai and Lohan Singh.

— A division bench of the Supreme Court dismissed a writ petition challenging the election of Zail Singh as President.

— Gurcharan Singh, High Commissioner to Ghana, has been concurrently accredited to Liberia and Togo.

— An Indian Air Force MIG-21 crashed near Nagal Labana village, about 40 km from Jullunder, killing its pilot.

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July 28 Lok Sabha passed the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Bill by 75 votes to 32 after the Home Minister, R. Venkatarman, turned down an Opposition demand for abolition of the office of the Governor.

— Nathu Ram Verma, presently Diractor in the External Affairs Ministry, has been appointed India's High Commissioner to Uganda succeeding Arun Kanti Das.

— Petroleum Minister, P. Shiv Shanker, justified the $ 175 million deal with Kuo Oil of Hong Kong in 1980 and said that while it is possible to question commercial judgement of this kind on hindsight, the perceptions that time were not without basis. Making a statement on the deal in both Houses of Parliament, he conceded that the Government might have made an "error of judgement". He also admitted that a file about the deal has been mislaid in the Prime Minister's office.

— Shiv Kumar, presently India's Ambassador to Venezeula, was appointed envoy to Laos. He succeeds Prithviraj Sooj.

29 Lok Dal faced yet another crisis when Party President Charan Singh expelled Devi Lal, Lok Dal Chief, for six years. In protest against this action, three Secretaries of the Party, Rabi Ray, Rameshwar Singh and Satyanarayana Reddy, resigned their offices.

— The Lok Sabha passed Special Court (Repeal) Bill, thus removing from the Statute Book what Minister of State for Home, P. Venkatasubbiah, described as the most "obnoxous" piece of legislation. The Bill has already been approved by the Rajya Sabha.

— Sohan Singh Josh, 87, a founder member of the Communist Party of India and a freedom fighter, passed away at Amritsar.

30 S.N. Sharma and Ramesh Chandra Shukla have been appointed Vice Chancellor of Sagar and Bhopal Universities respectively.

— Virendra Dayal, Director in the Department of Special Political Affairs of UN, has been chosen for the key post of Chief de Cabinet to U.N. Secretary General, Javier Pere de Cuellar.

31 Among unprecedented pandemonium, Bihar Assembly passed a Press Bill, which seeks to amend section 292 of the Indian Penal Code and Section 455 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to curb publication of obscene matters for black mailing in periodicals and newspapers.

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August 1 Crisis in Lok Dal developed with the resignation of Madhu Limaye as General Secretary of the Party. The three other General Secretaries, Rabi Ray, Rameshwar Singh and Satyanarayan Reddy, have alreadv resigned in protest against Party President Charan Singh's decision to expel Devi Lal from the Lok Dal.

— India and Bangladesh signed in Dacca a detailed protocol on inland water transit and trade under the broad provisions of the existing trade agreement entered into between the two countries on October 4, 1983. The trade agreement will remain operative upto October 3, 1983, but the protocal can be extended further on terms and conditions mutually agreed upon.

— The "Kannada Awakening Day" organised by the Writers and Artists Forum, took a violent turn resulting in the death of one person in police firing in Bangalore.

— N.R. Verma, Head of the Africa Division of the External Affairs Ministry, has been appointed the Indian High Commissioner to Uganda.

— Ramanand Sagar has been elected unanimously the Honorary President of the Film Producers Guild of India.

— Tirth Singh, 77, Minister in the erstwhile PEPSU State, died in Chandigarh of a heart attack.

2 After having remained vacant for several months, the key post of Director of News Services in All India Radio has received an Incumbent, R.N. Raina.

— Harish C. Khanna, IAS, took over as the Vice Chairman of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) from V.S. Ailwadi, who has been transferred to the Department of personnel, Government of India.

— India and France signed a memorandum in New Delhi covering agreements on capital financing, transfer and continuous flow of technology and supply of manufacturing equipment for a big electronic exchange project.

— Several national bodies of newspaper editors condemned the Bill curbing freedom of the press adopted by the Bihar Assembly and called for its withdrawal. Describing the Bill as "unwarranted, repressive and mischievous", the Editors Guild of India Chairman, S. Sahay, said it is too late even now to abandon the "misguided measures". The National Union of Journalists appealed to President Zail Singh and State Governor A.R. Kidwai not to give consent to this "black Bill."

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August 2 Shanti Sarup Bhatnagar, an Officer of the External Affairs Ministry, has been appointed Indian Ambassador to Panama in succession to Madan Lal Suri.

3 Lok Dal President Charan Singh expelled all those, who were arranging the meeting of office bearers of the Central and State Units to "elect a new President" of the Party on August 9. He also warned those intending to attend the meeting expulsion from the Party. Charan Singh also accepted the resignation of B. Satyanarayan Reddy from the Secretary Generalship of the Party. Meanwhile Rabi Ray said that the blanket expulsion order secured by Charan Singh would be "completely ignored" by the Party rank and file. He said the order is "subjective, motivated and unconstitutional". He added that the expulsion order notwithstanding, he and his colleagues are going ahead with the preparation for the August 9 meeting.

— Mrs. Sushma Swaraj has resigned as President of the Haryana Janata Party for "domestic reasons".

— Rajya Sabha adopted the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, which enabled the MPs to draw pension as former MPs as well as freedom fighters. Earlier MPs were entitled to pension either as an ex MP or as a freedom fighter. The Bill has already been passed by the Lok Sabha.

— T.N. Singh, former West Bengal Governor and former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, died of a heart failure.

— About 1,000 Akali volunteers led by Prakash Singh Badal, leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly (Punjab), courted arrest peacefully at Amritsar on the first day of the march launched by the Akali Dal (L) in support of their demands. Earlier, about 20,000 Sikhs attended a gathering in the Golden Temple. The demands put forward by the Akali leaders included greater automony for States, release of all innocent persons arrested in connection with the recent disturbances in Punjab, holy city status far Amritsar and a greater share in the Ravi-Beas waters for Punjab. On 6th August, on the third day of the Akali Dal's morcha, a Jatha of 108 volunteers led by Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa, former Transport Minister (Punjab), courted arrest in Amritsar. Earlier a meeting was held where Sant Jarnail Singh Bindranwale and some other Akali leaders explained the Centre's discrimination towards Punjab and the Sikhs. They described the Morchas "as dharam yudh" (holy war).

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August 4 Chandi Prasad Bhatt, an Indian environmentalist, who pioneered a movement to prevent destruction of forests in the Himalayas, obtained a community leadership award from the Manila based Ramon Magasaysay award foundation.

— D. Kamalkshaiah, a Congress (I) member of the Lok Sabha from Andhra Pradesh, passed away. He represented the Nellore Reserved Constituency.

— India's new Ambassador to Pakistan, K.D. Sharma, presented his credentials to President Zai-ul-Huq in Rawalpindi.

— M.C. Basappa, Congress (I) member of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, died following a heart attack at Mysore. He was 57.

— T.V. Gopinath Das, noted Harikatha exponent and dramatist, died of a heart ailment at Tamil Nadu.

— An unarmed Sikh, Gurbux Singh Majithia, demanding Rs. 50 lakhs in Canadian dollars and passage to Canada, hijacked an Indian Airlines Boeing on the Delhi Srinagar flight to Pakistan, but the tense drama ended 3 hours later with the safe return of the plane to India, release of all its 126 passengers and arrest of the hijacker.

5 At the Lok Dal Parliamentary Party meeting in New Delhi, George Fernandes, Deputy Leader of the Party in Lok Sabha and Ram Vilas Paswan, Lok Dal Chief Whip, were replaced by Rasheed Masood and Prof. B.D. Singh respectively. Chandra Pal Singh will now be Secretary of the Parliamentary Party. The post has been vacant since the expulsion of Chandrajit Yadav. Rajesh Kumar and Jagpal Singh were appointed Party Whips at the meeting. In a resolution the Parliamentary Party expressed its "full confidence" in Charan Singh's leadership and hailed his cleaning the Lok Dal of "professional Party splitters".

— Godey Murahari, former Dupty Speaker of Lok Sabha, died in New Delhi following a heart attack. He was 56.

— The IBRD announced that it has approved a credit worth $ 33 million to help India finance a fuel and environmental project. The money will be lent for 15 years at no interest but with a small annual service charge and will be used to establish true plantation in Jammu and Kashmir and Haryana. This is the fourth forestry and environmental project to be carried out by the IBRD in India.

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August 6 Dr. S.K. Pottekkatt (69), renowned writer, Jnanapeeth Award winner and a former member of Lok Sabha, died in a private nursing home at Kozhikode, where he was admitted on July 30, following a heart attack.

— H. Nabadwip Sharma, selfstyled President of the outlawed United People's Liberation Army of Seven States (UPLASS) laid down arms before the Manipur Chief Minister Rishang Keishing.

— Lok Dal President Charan Singh appointed former Minister of External Affairs, Shyam Nandan Mishra, as the General Secretary of the Party, replacing Madhu Limaye, who has been expelled. Ram Naresh Yadav, former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, was appointed as Secretary Organisation, a newly created post. Meanwhile, the expelled leader Rabi Ray appealed to Charan Singh to retire from public life, which, he said, would not only bring an end to the crisis in the Party, but also clear the decks for Opposition unity. He charged the Lok Dal Chief with offering resignation orally practically every month and many times in writing without any genuine intention to resign or retire.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi returned after a successful tour of the United States and a two day stop over in Tokyo. Talking to newsmen at the Delhi airport, Indira Gandhi said that the most important aspect of her tour was that she was able to establish personal contact with US leaders over a wide spectrum of American public opinion and put forward India's policy. She said that the purpose of her visit was to show that differences of opinion did not come in the way of cooperation. She conceded that there are differences between India and the USA on the issue of processing the French nuclear fuel and added that both countries have reached broad agreement on the question of nuclear fuel supply to Tarapur. Meanwhile Japanese Foreign Ministry officials described Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's trip to Japan as of "great significance" to the development of Indo-Japanese economic relations.

— Veteran trade unionist, Nishamant Khuntia, died. He was 60.

7 French Foreign Minister, Claude Cheysson, arrived in New Delhi on a day's visit to India. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi, French Foreign Minister said that France will impose no special conditions for supplying enriched uranium to the Tarapur plant nor will it exercise any control over the reprocessing of spent fuel by India under an agreement to be concluded

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shortly. Though, later on according to a French Foreign Ministry spokesman, a French nuclear Commission has put off indefinetly negotiations with India for the delivery of nuclear fuel for the Tarapur nuclear plant.

August 7 — The Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Previleges) Bill, 1982 received Parliamentary approval with its adoption by the Rajya Sabha. The Bill, which replaced the existing Gavernors Allowances and Privileges order of January 10, 1950, has already been passed by the Lok Sabha. It will enable refixation of ceiling on expenditure on Raj Bhavans keeping in view the reality of the present day situation.

— India's High Commissioner in Mauritius, Bhagwat Saran Uppadhyay, died in Port Louis. He was 73.

— Lok Dal President Charan Singh dissolved the Youth organisation of his Party, the Yuva Lok Dal, led by Sharad Yadav, a former Lohia Socialist. The dissolution of the Yuva Lok Dal followed Sharad Yadav's association with the alliance to the expelled General Secretary of the Lok Dal, Madhu Limaye. A statement issued by Charan Singh said that he would soon reconstitute a new youth organisation. Meanwhile, Rameshwar Singh, M.P., who was expelled from the Lok Dal following his protest against the expulsion of Devi Lal, sought re-entry into the Party.

— The metro railways (Construction of Works) amendment Bill received Parliament's approval with its passage by the Rajya Sabha.

9 — India and Japan signed a protocol that will govern co-operation between the two countries in third countries in the field of construction. Through this protocol, a party in either country securing a contract in a third country should now be able to obtain some engineering components from the other to ensure maximum economy.

— The Opposition in the Rajya Sabha launched a frontal attack on the Bihar Press Bill, which they feel seeks to "extinguish the flickering flame of press freedom in the country". Minister of State for Home, S. Venkatasubhaih informed the House that Bihar Chief Minster, Jaganath Mishra, had not consulted the Central Government before passing the recent Bill in the Assembly. He explained that under the Constitution, it is necessary for the Chief Minister to consult the Central Government. The Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Vasant Sathe, also clarified that he had not been consulted by Jagannath Mishra.

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August 9 Two Lok Dals emerged on the political scence following the formalisation of the fourth and the biggest split in Charan Singh's Party. The rebels led by Madhu Limaye, George Fernandes, Biju Patnaik, Devi Lal and Kumbha Ram Arya, removed Charan Singh as President, elected Karpoori Thakur in his place and declared themselves as the "genuine" Lok Dal after a joint meeting of the Parliamentary Board, National Executive and State Party functionaries in New Delhi.

— V.C. Shukla, M.P., was nominated President of the reconstituted All India Council of Sports (AICS) by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

10 The Constitution Amendment Bill to remove the obstacles created by a Supreme Court judgement in the realisation of sales tax on certain types of transactions secured Parliamentary approval when the Rajya Sabha passed it unanimously. The Constitution (46th Amendment) Biil has already been passed by the Lok Sabha.

— Eminent soil scientist, J.S.P. Yadav, has been appointed Vice Chancellor of Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar.

— For the first time in India's Parliamentary history, the entire press corps boycotted the question hour of both Houses, as a part of its protest against the Bihar Press Bill. As a measure of solidarity with the stand of the Press, the Opposition in both Houses staged a walkout during question hour.

— Gopi Krishen Handoo, security aide to Jawaharlal Nehru, died in Jammu and Kashmir, after a prolonged illness. He was 77.

— Manmohan Singh, member Secretary of the Planning Commission, has been appointed as Governor of the Reserve Bank of India for a period of five years with effect from September, 16 this year.

11 Argentine Vice Foreign Minister in charge of international economic relations, Feliso Alberto Pena, who visited India, called on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and discussed with her the prospects of increasing trade and economic relations between the two countries.

— The B.P. Mandal Commission report recommending 27 per cent reservation for the backward classes, received unanimous support in the Lok Sabha. During a marathon debate lasting till late in the night, not a single member either from the treasury or Opposition

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benches, raised a dissenting voice against the recommendations. All the members participating in the discussion urged speedy implementation of the report. In his reply to the nine hour long discussion, Home Minister, R. Venkataraman, informed the members that the Government will not take any hasty decision on the far reaching recommendations of the Commission. Refuting the Opposition allegation that the Government is dragging its feet in implementing the report, he said that the Centre proposes to convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers to enable it to take early a final decision of the recommendations.

August 11 — Brij Behari Srivastava, a Janata leader of Ballia district, died in Delhi. He was 56.

— Chit Fund Bill obtained parliamentary approval when the Lok Sabha agreed to incorporate the amendments suggested by the Rajya Sabha.

— Harishikesh Mukherjee has resigned from the Chairmanship of the Central Board of Film Censors. The Centre has accepted his resignation.

— Thomas Abraham, Indian Ambassador to Switzerland, has been concurrently accredited as Ambassador to the Holy See, with residence in Berne.

— The veteran commuuist leader, Fauja Singh Bhullar, died.

12 — Arun Shourie, Executive Editor of the Indian Express newspaper, won the 1982 Ramon Magasaysay award for journalism, literature and creative communication arts, the awards board of trustees announced.

— Lok Dal (K) announced the appointment of six Party Secretaries. They were Rabi Ray, Dhanik Lal Mandal, B. Satyanarayana Reddy, Vinod Prasad Singh, Sharad Yadav and Om Pal Singh. According to a Party spokesman, Padam Singh Verma has been appointed Organising Secretary.

— Mangalyn Dugeruren, Foreign Minister of Mongolia arrived in New Delhi on a three day offlcial visit.

— The name of the Udaipar University has been changed to Mohan Lal Sukhadia University.

— Reserve Bank has revised the rates for buying and selling US doller currency notes by banks and money changers from tourists and other members of the public. The

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revised rates are buying Rs. 9.33 and selling Rs. 9.70.

August 12 The two day Indo-Pakistan talks at the Foreign Secretaries level concluded in Islamabad, with both sides agreeing to meet again in New Delhi. India's Foreign Secretary, M.K. Rasgotra, has described the talks "as productive and useful".

13 Air Chief Marshal P.C. Lal, former Chief of the Air Staff and hero of the IAF's creditable performance in the 1971 operation, died in London.

— The election of Zail Singh as the seventh President of India, was challenged in the Supreme Court on as many as nine grounds. The election petition involving the Supreme Court's exclusive and original jurisdiction has been filed under Article 71 of the Constitution and section 14 of the Presidential and Vice Presidential Election Act, 1952, by 27 MPs including Charan Singh, Syed Shahabuddin, Surendra Mohan, Jagannath Rao Joshi and Harikesh Bahadur. The petition, which lists nine grounds, contends that Zail Singh is "not a suitable candidate" for Presidentship.

— Khiangle C. Lalvunga, Ambassador to Oman, has been appointed Ambassador to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North) in succession to Raj Krishan Manucha.

— R. D. Sathe, former Foreign Secretary, was appointed India's Ambassador to Federal Republic of Germany (West). He succeeds A. M. Khusro.

— The veteran Congress leader and a former President of the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee, A. P. C. Veerababu, died. He was 68.

— Vijay Merchant, a distinguished cricketer, has been nominated for the "People's Award 1982-83".

14 India and Mongolia signed two protocols - one in the field of agricultural education and research and the other in health, technologies and trainees.

— The International Development Association will finance the second phase of an irrigation project in Madhya Pradesh, with $ 31 million credit. The I D A credit to be committed when funds are available is for 50 years including 10 years of grace. It carries no interest, but bears a small annual service charge of 0.75% on the disbursed balances. The State will finance the balance of the $ 61.8 million project with $ 30.8 million.

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August 14 The Indian Posts and Telegraph Department will issue a multicoloured special postage stamp on "Oil Exploration".

— S.N. Imashev, Deputy Chairman of the Presideum of the Supreme Soviet and President of the Presidium of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, arrived in New Delhi on a 12 day visit to India as the head of a two member Soviet delegation.

15 The 13 hour State wide "People's curfew" called by Assam agitators on Independence Day ended at 6 p.m. leaving behind about a dozen injured in group clashes in Darrang district. Four arson incidents and several cases of assault and removal of the national flag were reported from different parts of the Brahmaputra Valley.

— A country boat carrying about 200 people capsized in mid stream in the Bhargavi river near Balanga village under Nimpara police statiod.

— Murlidharji Maharaj, sixth Peethadishwar of Vallabbha sect, passed away. He was 81.

— The World Bank has sanctioned a credit assistance of $33 milliod (over Rs. 34.5 crore) for the prestigious social forestry projects of Jammu and Kashmir and Haryana.

— Dr. Bhudeo Sharma, an eminent scientist of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), died. He was 49.

16 Khushwant Singh, Editor of "The Hindustan Times" and N.R. Chandran, General Manager of Press Trust of India, have been selected for the "Man of International Media" award by the National Integration Assembly (NIA).

— The veteran charactor actor, Kanhaiyalal, has died at the age of 72.

17 B.R. Nanda, former Geneaal Secretary of the Bharat Sewak Samaj, who was undergoing treatment at the PGI hospital (Chandigarh) died. He was 78.

— Fr. Camilla Bullcke, renowned Hindi scholar, died in New Delhi. He was 73. Mr. Bulcke, a Jesuit priest of Belgian origin had made India his home for the past 47 years, serving Hindi and Indian culture.

— N. P. Jain, India's Ambassador designate to Mexico, has been concurrently accredited to Guatemala.

— Mohan Lal Trivedi, Deputy Secretary in the policy

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planning division of the External Affiars Ministry, has been appointed Ambassador to Mongolia.

August 17 P.C. Gandhi, Special Correspondent of the "Times of India" and P. Sharma, Special Representative of the "Statesman", have been selected for "Media Man of the Year Constructive Reporting Award by the National Integration Assembly.

— Prem Shunker, India's Ambassador to Denmark, has been appointed Ambassador to Kuwait. He succeeds S.J.S. Chhatwal.

— Z.L. Kaul, journalist and diplomat, died. He was 64.

— Ten persons were killed and nine others seriously injured when a truck in which they were travelling overturned near Sanand village, near Ahmedbad.

18 The All India Bank Employees' Association leader, Dada Purav, died in Bombay. He was 52.

— Gobind Rai Batra, Congress (I) MLA of Haryana, died at Fatehbad.

— The policy constabulary raised a massive revolt in Bombay causing an unprecedented disruption and chaos in the life of this metropolis and forcing the authorities to call in the Army to restore order. The Army and paramilitary forces fired at several places in the crowded central part of the city as a 24 hour curfew failed to contain hooligans and other policemen, indulging in an orgy of violance and arson. According to PTI, the Police Commissioner of Bombay, J.F. Rabeiro, has said that four persons were killed in the firing. He has imposed a 24 hours curfew in different parts of the city and shoot at sight orders have been issued to suppress violance. Trouble began after 22 police constables were detained under the National Security Act. The President of the Maharastha Police Karamchari Sanghatana, S. D. Mohite, was among those arrested. Crackdown on rebellious policemen followed intelligence reports about the Sangatana's alleged move to steal weapons from the armouries and indulge in violence. When news of arrest of the leaders spread, policemen in various stations came out and refused to work. They started blocking railway and road traffic. Striking textile workers also came to their help. It was then that the Army and paramilitary forces were deployed.

— S. Krishnaswamy, Managing Director of the Associated Cement Companies (ACC), died in Bombay.

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August 19 Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Sheikh Abdullah, attributed the resignation of the Works Minister, G.M. Shah, to a "clash of temperament". This was his first public pronouncement on the issue following the acceptance of Shah's resignation.

— Dilip Chowdhury, a well known graphic designer and artist, died. He was 47.

— Dr. M.K.V. Bappu, renowned astronomer and Director of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, died at the Munich University clinic.

— A nine member team of employees in ordnance factories scaled Trishul peak (23,360 ft.) in Garhwal Himalayas.

— Prakash Hiralal Shah, India's High Commissioner to Malaysia, has been appointed Ambassador to Venezuela. He succeeds Shiv Kumar.

— Ramachandra Balwant Ghorpade, octogenarian freedom fighter, educationist, veteran journalist and former legislator, died

20 Yashwant Rao Pawar (Junior), former Maharaja of Dewas, died.

— R. Krishnaswamy Reddiar (59), Managing Editor of Kerala Sabdam Weekly and a number of other publications, died following a heart attack.

— Commandos and the police in Amritsar airport outmanoeuvred and shot dead a Sikh hijacker of the Indian Airlines Boeing 737 with 63 passengers and six crew on board in a high tension drama during which the hijacker sought transfer of power in Punjab, tried unsuccessfully to land at Lahore and then fly out to Dubai from Amritsar. The plane on a schedule flight, delayed by 20 minutes from Bombay to Delhi via Udaipur and Jaipur, had been taken over by the militant Sikh, Museebat Singh, described to be in the age group of 20-25 by one of the sick woman passengers released earlier. Armed with a small pistol in one hand and a grenade in the other, Museebat Singh had terrorised the passengers and the crew for nearly seven hours as the plane was taken first to Lahore and, on being denied permission to land there by Pakistani authorities, finally landed at Amritsar. He was shot dead as he was about to release some passengers. All passengers and crew were released at Rajasna airport, first a sick Mrs. Sathe and her child, they were all safe and uhaarmed.

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August 20 Chief Minister of Punjab, Darbara Singh, miraculously escaped an attempt on his life with hand grenades by a proclaimed offender in the 1980 Nirankari Baba murder case at a function in Rahon in Jullunder district. The State Education Minister, Harcharan Singh Ajanala, security men and members of the public were among the thirty injured, five of them seriously. The alleged assailant, identified as Dalbir Singh, was nabbed on the spot.

21 Jain Muni Shree 1008 Shri Chandgi Maharaj expired. He was 80.

22 Eknath Ramakrishna Ranade, builder of the famous Vivekananda Rock Memorial at Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu, died of a massive heart attack.

— Ram Prasad Tripathi, 96, eminent historian and father-in-law of the Democratic Socialist Party leader, H.N. Bahuguna, died in London.

23 The Jamnalal Bajaj awards (1982) for meritorius work in social service and rural development were announced by the Vice President, M. Hidyatullah, who is Chairman of the Council of Advisers of the Jamnalal Bajaj foundation. The receipients are Gokulbhai Bhatt, 83, of Rajasthan for outstanding contribution in constructive work, Prembhai, 47, of U.P. for pioneering reserch on application of science and technology for rural development and Mrs. Taraben Mashruwala, 73, of Amravati in Maharashtra for her role in the welfare of woman and children.

— Normal life in Patna was disrupted as the city observed a 12 hour bandh in response to a call from five Opposition parties and several student organisations, even as journalists in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana registered their strong protest against Bihar Press Bill and police lathi charge on newsmen in Patna on Ausust 20.

— Dr. Farook Abdullah, eldest son of Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Sheikh Abdullah and President of the ruling National Conference, was sworn-in as Cabinet Minister. He has been given charge of Health portfolio.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrived in Port Louis to a warm welcome by the Mauritians. Indira Gandhi, who was the first foreign head of State to visit Mauritius after the new leftist Government assumed office in June, was received by Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnath, his Cabinet colleagues and members of the diplomatic corps.

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Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was given a civic reception at the Champ de Mars, the historic ground where transfer of power from Britain to Mauritius took place in 1968. Addressing members of the Mauritius National Assembly on 24th August, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi pledged India's support to the Mauritian claim to the Diego Garcia island and called for continued efforts to keep the Indian Ocean free from outside forces. In a joint communique issued at the end of the three day State visit of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, both countries called for cessation of any further production of nuclear weapons which they say, pose a grave threat to the very survival of mankind. Both countries reiterated that non-alignment is an essential prerequisite for developing countries in their pursuit of national independence, sovereignty, equality and development.

August 24 In broad daylight a gang of armed bandits raided the Bank of India, Adityapur brnnch near Jamshedpur and looted a sum of Rs. 1,74,000.

25 Tripartite talks on the foreigners issue in Assam resumed on a hopeful note with the unanimous acceptance of a formula for the detection of foreigners. This formula envisages that all foreigners shall be detected on the basis of the Constitution and the relevant laws, including the Foreigners Act, Citizenship Act and the Passport Act. In the process of detection, due inquiries shall be conducted on the basis of a set of guidelines in the form of a questionaire. The Assam leaders still have reservations about four points in the suggested questionaire. These relate to the acceptance of evidence and the policy instructions of June 16, 1965, which confer citizenship to certain categories of immigrants. Differences continue on questions such as reasons for leaving the country of origin, fate of share croppers and the evidence on which a person seeks to rely for his or her claim to citizenship. The meeting held in New Delhi was presided over by Home Minister, R. Venkataraman. Also present from the Government side were Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, Petroleum and Chemicals Minister, Shiv Shanker, Law Minister, Jagannath Kaushal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Bhishma Narain Singh. The Opporition was represented by Atal Behari Vajpayee (BJP), Harkishan Singh Surjit (CPI-M), K.P. Unikrishanan (Congress-S), Ravindra Verma (Janata) and Indrajit Gupta (CPI). The AAGSP was led by Atul Bora and B. R. Shrama and AASU by Prafulla Mohanta and Bhrigu Phukan. On 26th August, the meeting of Assam agitation and Opposition leaders with the Government agreed to consider a formula for the detection of all those residents in Assam who are not

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"citizens". The formula, put forward by Janata Party leader, Ravindra Verma, envisaged that all those whose names do not appear in National Register of citizenship in 1951 and electoral rolls of Assam and other States of 1952 can be the subject of enquiry. Their progeny's citizenship can also be questioned. On 27th August it was agreed at the bilateral talks on Assam foreigners' issue that 1977 electoral rolls of the State would be treated as a national list from which any citizen can apply to a tribunal for deletion of any name, on the ground the person was not a citizen. The talks were adjourned till September to work out specific formulations of some of the aspects of the draft formulated by Janata Party leader Ravindra Verma for the deletion of names from electoral rolls of those non-citizens who entered the State after 1961 wlthout prejudice to their protential for becoming citizens.

August 25 Jagmohan, presently Lt. Governor of Goa, has been appointed Lt. Governor of Delhi in place of S.L. Khurana, who has been made Lt. Governor of Tamil Nadu in place of Sadiq Ali.

— The Army called out on August 18 by Maharashtra Government to assist the civilian authorities in Bombay city to maintain law and order following a crackdown on the agitating policemen in the State, has been with drawn, an Army spokesman announced.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, on her arrival at Mozambique, was received at the airport by President Samora Machel. She pledged India's unstinted support to the struggle for the establishment of majotity rule in Mozambique. On 27th August, it was announced that India agrees to provide a new line of credit of Rs. 5 crores for the purchase of Indian goods by Mozambique. In a joint statement issuea after talks between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and President Samora Machel, the two leaders declared that the racist minority regime in South Africa is a remnant of the colonial era, whose policies of suppression and exploitation of the African people pose a threat to the peace and security of the region.

— Manzurul Amin, Deputy Director General of Doordarshan, has been appointed Additional Director General of Doordarshan. The appointment was in place of Kamleshwar, whose ad-hoc appointment was terminated on April 20 this year.

— Justice D.P. Madan has been appointed Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court.

26 A.R. Shinde, Deputy Director General, All India Radio,

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has been appointed Additional Director General AIR.

August 26 Prof. S.C. Sarkar, a noted historian, died at Nitala in South Calcutta. He was 82.

— India and Iran signed a memorandum of understanding to cooperate in wide ranging sectors as well as to increase trade and industrial collaboration with each other. The document was signed in Tehran by Union Commerce Minister, Shivraj Patil and the Iranian Minister of Commerce, Habibollah Askar Gualdi Mosalman.

27 The Foreign Minister of Japan, Yushio Sakurachi, arrived in New Delhi on a four day offlcial visit during which he exchanged views with Indian leaders on bilateral matters and the international situation with particular reference to their respective regions.

— Anandmayi Maa, 87 years old spiritual leader, died at her "ashram" near Dehradun.

— R.G. Anand, architect and well known playwright, died of a massive heart attack.

— The police arrested 305 Akalis in a major crackdown in Punjab. Most of the arrested constitute the second line of Akali leadership in Jullunder, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala, Bhatinda and Ropar. Chief Minister, Darbara Singh informed newsmen that the arrests have been made as a "precautionary measure" under section 107 and 151 IPS in apprehension of the breach of peace. He ruled out the possibility of police entry into the Golden Temple premises at Amritsar saying it is against Constitution though there is no law barring police entry into religious places. On 29th August, the State wide crack down on Akali Dal leaders and workers continued for the third day and the number of the preemptive arrests totalled 367. The sources claimed that the situation throughout the State is normal. The arrested persons included the former Chief Minister of Punjab, Prakash Singh Badal.

28 Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee and Japanese Foreign Minister, Yushio Sakurachi signed an agreement under which Japan will provide a loan assistance of Rs. 126.53 crore for four projects during 1982-83 and a grant in aid of Rs. 17.78 lakh. The loan was in fulfilment of the commitment made by Japan at the Aid India Consortuim meeting in Paris in June. It is repayable over 30 years with a grace period of 10 years and bears 2.75 per cent interest.

— India and Bangladesh held 22nd meeting of the Joint

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Rivers Commission in Dacca. Bangladesh Agriculture Minister, A.Z.M. Obaidullah Khan, was leading a 14 member delegation and Indian Irrigation Minister, Kedar Pandey, a 12 memher delegation to the talks. The two delegations decided that the six members standing committee formed with three from each country on the fiva border rivers of Manu, Murari, Khowai, Gunti and Dhalia-Dudkumar should submit its report within nine months. Union Irrigation Minister, Kedar Pandey, who returued to Calcutta after talks with Bangladesh leaders said, India will not enter into any agreement with Bangladesh on sharing the Ganga water without a long term solution to the problem of augmentation of the river. A joint press release issued in Dacca after the talks said that India and Bangladesh have achieved a "greater measure of understanding on the elements to be taken into account for finding an equitable solution".

August 28 The Posts and Telegraph Department issued another set of two stamps on the IX Asian Games based on two ancient sports—archery and wrestling.

— Shanti Sarup Bhatnagar, Ambassador of India to Panama, has been concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Nicaragua with residence in Panama.

29 The General body meeting of the Akali Dal (Tara Singh) passed a noconfidence motion against its President, Jathedar Rachhpal Singh and removed him from the Presidentship. The General Body meeting convened by supporters of the late Jathedar Santokh Singh, founder of the Akali Dal (Tara Singh), appointed Jathedar Harbans Singh Frontier as its new President.

— P.K. Sethi, the celebrated inventor of the "Jaipur foot" an artificial limb, has been selected for the 1982 Guineness award for scientific achievement. The £ 1,000 award, instituted by the Guinness foundation would be presented formally at a function in London in October.

30 Twenty two persons were killed and 15 injured when a Meghalaya State Transport bus fell 100 metres down into a gorage near Rangain, about 48 km from Shillong, while on way to the State Capital from Dawki, a border town.

31 India and USA signed agreements which provide for US development assistance of Rs. 78.2 crores for three Indian projects. The Projects are : Maharashtra : irrigation, technology and management (Rs. 45.4 crores), Maharashra Social Forestry (Rs. 28.9 crores) and inte-

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grated rural health and population (Rs. 3.9 crores). The loans are for 40 years with a ten year grace period.

August 31 — Gopal Swarup Pathak, former Vice President of India, passed away in New Delhi. He was 86.

September 1 — Mohan Singh, son of veteran Akali leader, Master Tara Singh, died in New Delhi. He was 63.

— Rear Abmiral R.V. Arte has been promoted as Vice Admiral. He has taken over as Commandant of the National Defence College in New Delhi.

— Reserve Bank of India announced a downward revision of rupee by 0.30 percent in relation to the pound sterling, making sterling dearer by 5 paise. The spot buying and selling rates were so fixed as to give a new middle rate of Rs. 16.55 compared with the previous rate of Rs. 16.50.

2 — Congress (I) President Indira Gandhi reconstituted the Congress (I) Working Committee and the Central Parliamentary Board. Former Maharashtra Chief Minister, A.R. Antulay, Gujarat Chief Minister, Madhav Singh Solanki and Buta Singh have been dropped from the CWC(I). The new entrants were: Defence Minister, R. Venkataraman, Health Minister, B. Shankaranand Punjab Chief Minister, Darbara Singh, Orissa Chief Minister, J.B. Patnaik and Meham Singh from Meghalaya. The new Working Committee consisted of: Indira Gandhi, Kamalapati Tripathi, R. Venkataraman, P.V. Narasimha Rao, Pranab Mukherjee, Maragatham Chandrasekhar, Syed Mir Qusim, Dr. S.D. Sharma, B. Shankaranand, R. Gundu Rao, Darbara Singh, C.M. Stephen, A.P. Sharma, J.B. Patnaik, Meham Singh and Sitaram Kesri (treasurer). The members of the reconstituted Parliamentary Board were: Indira Gandhi, Kamalapati Tripathi, R. Venkataraman, P.V. Narasimha Rao, Pranab Mukherjee, Margatham Chandrashekhar, Syed Mir Qasim and A.P. Sharma.

— In a Major reshuffle of her Council of Ministers, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi changed the portfolios of several senior Ministers and seven junior Ministers and inducted five new Ministers of State and three Deputy Ministers. This took the total stretngth of the Council of Ministers to 61. Among the Cabinet Ministers P.C. Sethi has been Shifted to Home, A.P. Sharma to Communications, C.M. Stephen to Transport and Shipping, Virendra Patil to Labour, Vasant Shathe to Chemicals and Fertilisers and Abdul Ghani Khan Choudhury to Railways. Three Ministries have been split. Petroleum has been made part of the Energy Ministry. Chemicals and Fertilisers has

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been made a separate Department under the charge of Vasant Sathe. The Coal Department has been taken away from the Energy Ministry and clubbed with the Ministry of Industry. Tourism and Civil Aviation have been split and placed under different Ministers of State. Two new Departments have been created. They are the Department of Non-Conventional Sources of Energy in the Ministry of Energy. The Department of Environment has been renamed the Department of Ecology. The new Ministers of State were, H.K.L. Bhagat, N.K.P. Salve, S.S.B. Pattabhi Rama Rao, Ramachandra Rath and Virbhadra Singh. The new Deputy Ministers were: Digvijay Singh, Ghulam Nabi Azad and Ashok Gehlot.

September 2 — Jagmohan was administered the oath of office as Lt. Governor of Delhi.

— In a minor reshuffle of portfolios in Maharashtra, the Law and Judiciary portfolio held so far by Chief Minister, Babasaheb Bhosale, has been transferred to Irrigation Minister, Shivajirao Patil-Nilange Kar. The working of the Public Health and Urban Development Department has also been streamlined with its bifurcation into three independent sections:Public Health, Medical Education and Urban Development with three secretaries in charge.

— Mool Chand, a former Member of the Metropolitan Council and General Secretary of the Delhi rural district Congress Committee (I), died of cancer. He was 62.

— The resignations of two Ministers of State, Dr. Charanjit Chanana and S.S. Sisodia were acceptcd by President Zail Singh. They had resigned from the Council of Ministers after they ceased to be members of the Rajya Sabha in March this year. They were asked by the Prime Minister to continue until the alternative arrangements were made.

— U. Varadarayanayak, physics teacher in a private high school in Mangalore, has won the prestigeous American Association International Award for physics teachers 1982, for his invention of the modified "Atwood" machine.

— Thirty five persons were drowned in Vamsadhara river in Koraput district (Bhubaneshwar) when a boat capsized.

— Union Irrigation Secretary, C.C. Patel, has been appointed Inter Regional Advisor on Water Resources at the United Nations headquarter in New York.

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September 3 Employees of newspapers and news agencies participated in the nation wide token strike against the Bihar Press Bill. While the strike, a call for which had been given by the Confederation of Newspaper and News Agency Employees Organisations, was reportedly total in the eastern region, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana, it was somewhat partial in U.P., Tamil Nadu. Kashmir, Orissa and Bihar, where a total of about 20 newspapers, including those being published by the National Herald group and mostly language dailies, made their appearance. Journalists and non-journalists along with several Opposition leaders participated in protest meeting, ralies and dharnas in several State Capitals, including Bhopal, Hyderabad, Bombay and Srinagar.

4 At least 57 persons have died of liquor poisoning and about 1200 have been hospitalised with symptoms of vomiting, purging giddiness and fading eyesight in the worst ever hooch tragedy in Kerala in the Vypeon island near Cochin. This was reported by UNI and PTI. The tragedy occured after the victims had consumed the deadly liquor on the Onam festival on 1st September.

— Baburao Patel, Editor of "Mother India" magazine and a former member of Parliament, died. He was 78.

— The first multi purpose national satellite, Insat-1A, developed yet another snag resulting in temporary suspension of its operations. Already handicapped by several constraints and problems, the 1,050 kg spacecraft lost its attitude orientation and telemetry contact with the master control facility at Hassan near Bangalore. Though the telemetry contact was re-established after four hours of struggle by the Indian space scientists, the space craft was yet to be brought back to its normal condition.

— N. Bhadraiah, a former President of the Karnataka State Adult Education Council, has been selected for the 1982 Nehru Literacy Award for his outstanding contribution towards the promotion of adult education in the country. Mr. Bhadraiah has played a key role in the setting up of vidyapeeths in the rural areas of Karnataka in the pattern of folk schools of Denmark. He was a former UNESCO adviser. Mr. Bhadraiah is the 15th recepient of the prestigious annual award.

— R. Peeranna (53), a nominated member of the Karnataka Legislative Council, died in Bangalore following a heart attack. A member of the Legislative Assembly between 1962 and 1973, elected for three consecutive terms Peeranna was nominated to the Council in 1980.

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September 4 Raj Kishore Verma, a veteran freedom fighter and father of Srikant Verma, member of Rajya Sabha, died at Korba in Madhya Pradesh.

5 B. Shivlal (40), Congress (I) MLA from Andhra Pradesh, died in Hyderabad after a heart attack.

— The Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Dilbagh Singh, left on a week's visit to the United Kingdom.

— India and Czechoslovakia have signed a joint protocol at the end of the tenth session in Prague of the Indo-Czechoslovak committee for economic, trade and technical cooperation.

— Insat- 1A, India's first multipurpose domestic satellite suffered its biggest flaw when fuel on board the spacecraft was almost completely depleted, reducing its life from the estimated seven years to less than five months.

— Tweleve passengers were killed and 40 injured, six of them seriously, when two buses of the Haryana and Punjab roadways collided head on near Madhuban on the Sher Shah Suri Marg.

— Union Minister for Irrigation, Kedar Pandey, left for Moscow on a week long visit to the Soviet Union. During his visit, Mr. Pandey will hold discussions with his Soviet counterpart on cooperation between the two countries on water resources development and allied fields.

6 Five days after the major Cabinet reshuffle, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi made some minor changes in the portfolios of some Ministers. The Department of Coal, which was part of the Energy Ministry and had been entrusted to N.D. Tewari after the reshuffle, has been transferred to reconstituted Ministry of Petroleum and Energy headed by P. Shiv Shankar. N.D. Tewari was now left with Industry and Steel and Mines Departments. G.S. Mishra, who was appointed Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel and Mines and Industry, was named as Minister of State for Energy. Kalp Nath Rai, Deputy Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, was also to be the Deputy Minister for Industry. C.P.N. Singh, who had been appointed Minister of State in the Department of Science and Technology, Electronics, Ecology and Ocean Development and also Minister of State in the Department of Non Conventional Energy Sources in the Ministry oi' Energy, has been divested of Ecology portfolio. Mohammed Usman Arif was appointed Deputy Minister for Civil Supplies and Giridhar Gomango, who

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had been appointed Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Supply and Rehabilitation, was to be the Deputy Minister for Labour and Rehabilitation.

September 6 — Malik Mohammad Jamil Ahmed Khan, member of the Vidhan Sabha from Patiali Constituency in Etah district (Uttar Pradesh), died following dislocation of his pace maker.

7 — Ishrat Aziz, presently Indian Consul General in San Francisco, was appointed Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates. He succeeded Lalitendur Mansingh.

— Sushil Dubey, Director in the Ministry of External Affairs, was appointed Ambassador to Peru succeeding Sarv Kumar Kathpalia.

— Veteran freedom fighter Bir Baid (80), died at Faridkot. He was a CPI leader who joined the freedom movement in early thirties, suffered imprisonments and organised a peasant movement in Lahore.

8 — Bikkina Venkatarman (90), a freedom fighter and Minister in the composite Madras State, died at Kakinanda.

— Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah (77), veteran leader and one of the oldest freedom fighters, presently Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, died after having put up a brave fight for more than two months. Sheikh Abdullah was popularly known as "Sher-e-Kashmir". For over five decades, the Sheikh dominated the political scene in the State. Though he was removed from office in August 1953, he continued to cast a long shadow on political events in the State. He was brought back to the helm of affairs following Kashmir accord in 1977. An 11 day State mourning was declared. Dr. Farooq Abdulah, Health Minister and the eldest son of late Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah was sworn-in as the acting Chief M nister. Meanwhile Union Government ordered a two day period of national mourning as a mark of respect to Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah. All Central Government offices throughout the country remained closed for one day. Sheikh's body was laid to rest at Hazrat Bal on 10th September.

— Tamil Nadu has been elected by the UNESCO international jury for "Krupskaya" award for its outstanding work in promoting literacy.

9 — Shoot at sight orders were issued as people beloging to two communities exchanged fire from house tops in the

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riot affected areas in Meerut.

September 9 Talking to newsmen in New Delhi, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Arjun Singh, announced the promulgation of an Ordinance, known as Madhya Pradesh Specific Corrupt Practices Ordinance, which seeks to provide for stringent punishment ranging from six months imprisonment to death penality to persons and officers indulging in specific corrupt practices. The Ordinance covered a wide range of malpractices which on some technical plea or the other had escaped the clutches of the present generalised law. The Ordinance came into effect on September 8.

10 India and Hungary signed a protocol at Budapest for 1983-84 for the implementation of the existing agreement between the two countries in the fields of medicine and public health. The protocol includes the prossibility of mutual collaboration in the organisational, educational and research problems of health services as well as in the problems of epidemics.

— The twelve hour band in Bihar in protest against curbs sought to be imposed on the press and the judiciary completely paralysed life throughout the State. Over 300 persons, including many political leaders, were arrested all over the State.

11 34 people, including 32 Akali (L) volunteers, were killed and 20 injured, when the Amritsar - Khem Karan passenger train hit a bus carrying Akali Dal (L) agitators at a manned level crossing near Amritsar. About 400 Akalis arrested in Amritsar in connection with the Akali morcha, were being taken to Bhatinda jail under police escort. The State Government ordered a magisterial inquiry into the train bus collision. The Railway Ministry also asked the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Lucknow, to inquire into the incident.

— Dr. Farooq Abdullah, eldest son of late Sheikh Abdullah (Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir), was unanimously elected leader of the ruling National Conference Legislature Party.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi inducted U.P. Congress (I) President Mohsina Kidwai in the Council of Ministers as Minister of State for Labour and Rehabilitation. President Zail Singh administered the oath of office to her as well as three other Ministers of State and a Deputy Minister, who were not in town at the time of the last reshuffle of the Cabinet. The

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Ministers of State sworn-in besides Mohsina Kidwai were Virbhadra Singh (Industry), S.S.B. Pattabhirama Rao (Finance) and Ramachandra Rath (Chemicals) and the Deputy Minister, Gulam Nabi Azad (Law). The strength of the Union Council of Ministers has now gone upto 61. Now it has 18 Cabinet rank Minister, 25 Ministers of State and 18 Deputy Ministers. A Rashtrapati Bhavan communique said that the Department of Ecology has been redesignated as the Department of Environment.

September 11 — Subhadra Joshi, a former M.P., said she has sent her resignation letter to the Party President, (Congress S) Sharad Pawar.

— Ten persons were killed and 35 injured when a private bus skidded off the Imphal-Morcha road near Lokchao ridge, about 100 km from Imphal.

12 — Dr. M.G. Garg of Delhi was elected President of the Indian Medical Association.

— India and the USSR signed at Moscow a protocol on cooperation in irrigation, water conservation and some other similar fields. The protocol envisaged the sharing of Soviet experience in building earthen dams with explosion blast methods and exchange of technical information in land reclamation and water conservation.

— Prakash Padukone won rhe men's singles title in championship after a pulsating one hour struggle with Chinese champion Chen Tienlong in Hong Kong.

— Pulak Bera, a CPI (M) MLA from Mona Constituency in Midnapore district, (West Bengal), died. He was 53.

13 — Kishore Parekh, a distinguished photographer, died of a massive heart attack. Mr. Parekh hit the Indian photographic scene in the late fifties and became a trend-setter in news photography. He was considered a master of human photography.

— The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) has sanctioned Rs. 45 crores towards social afforstation in Tamil Nadu. The aid would be spread over a period of five years beginning from 1982-83.

— The West German Government has donated DM 50,000 (Rs. 1,91,000) for flood relief in UP, Bihar and Orissa.

14 — The Indian film "Oridathoru Phyalvan" was named the best film in the 27th Asian film festival, held in Kuala

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Lumpur. The film also collected the Seriwangsa trophy for best sereen play.

September 14 The new Council of Ministers, (Jammu and Kashmir), headed by Dr. Farooq Abdullah, was administered the oath of offiee and secrecy by Governor B.K. Nehru at Srinagar, The 11 member team has seven Cabinet Ministers and four Ministers of State.

— Ten persons were killed and 44 injured when a tourist bus from Tamil Nadu fell into a 305 metre deep ravine near the Idukki dam.

15 Abu Adamji Jasdenvala, a former Sheriff of Bombay, who was associated with various institutions of the city, died after a heart attack. He was 84.

— The Central Congress (I) leadership, after prolonged consultations with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, decided to choose Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy, a senior member of the Lok Sabha and former Finance Minister to succeed B. Venkataram as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

16 Dr. Man Mohan Singh, until recently Member Secretary, Planning Commission, took over as the Governor of Reserve Bank of India.

— Mani Ram Bagri, Jaipal Singh Kashyap and Manohar Lal Saini, members of Lok Sabha have joined the Lok Dal led by Charen Singh, thus raising the Party's strength in the House to 27.

— A Rashtrapati Bhavan announcement said that President Zail Singh will leave for USA on September 30 for a medical check up at the Taxas Heart Institute at Houston (USA). In the begininng of October, a panel of medical experts which examined Zail Singh recently, has advised that he needs specialised investigation to evaluate the condition of his coronary arteries.

— The Union Cabinet decided to extend for another six months the Presidential order of March 1980 suspending the Delhi Metropolitan Council. The present term of suspension was to expire on September 20.

17 The Central Government declared certain parts of Tripura as disturbed areas. The declaration under Section 3 of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, allowed use of the army to help the civil administration in maintaining law and order. The areas covered under the notification were the eastern limit along

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Tripura - Mizoram border and the northern limit of Assam-Tripura-Mizoram trijunctions along the Tripura Assam border. On 18th September, Chief Minister of Tripura, Nripen Chakraborty, protested against what he called the "arbitrary decision" of the Centre to declare some parts of Tripura as disturbed areas. In a statement issued in Agartala, he said that the decision against the wishes of the State Government, "is not only arbitrary and unconstitutional but goes against the accepted norms in a democratic set-up" He added that the step is "unwarranted and uncalled for since the area was never so peaceful as it is now".

September 17 — Indira Chitnis, noted Marathi film and stage actress of yesteryears, died in Pune. She was 72.

— The National Labour Conference which began a two day session in Delhi with some major unions boycotting it, recommended to the Government the constitution of a tripartite committee with experts in it to prepare a comprehensive report on a national wage policy. The meeting was attended by the INTUC and the Hind Mazdoor Sabha (Kulkarni). The boycotting unions including the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, All India Trade Union Congress, Hind Mazdoor Sabha (Vashishth) and the Centre for Indian Trade Unions demonstrated outside the Conference Hall and held a dharna throughout the day. The employees were represented by the Employees Federation of India, the All India Organisation of Employees, All India Manufacturers Organisation and the Standing Committee of Public Sector Enterprises. On 18th September representatives of the Government, employers and the INTUC agreed at the National Labour Conference that strikes in any establishment should be launched only if they have the support of at least 60 percent of the workmen. The conference recommended revival of the National Labour Commission's suggestion to constitute Industrial Relations Commissions at the Central and State levels as apex bodies to resolve industrial relations matters.

— The Posts and Telegraph Department issued a set of two stamps printed in multicolour, in connection with Festival of India in the U.K. The two stamps were in the denomination of Rs. 3 and Rs. 2.

— Soviet collaboration in the construction of a new steel plant in Orissa and several other projects in other States was envisaged in a protocol signed in Moscow at the end of the two day session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Economic Commission. The protocol also provided for Soviet assistance in modernizing and expanding the

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Burnpur steel plant and increasing coal production in the Jhajhara coal mine and Jhhingra mine in Singrauli coal field.

September 18 — Kant Kishore Bhargava, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed High Commissioner to Zimbabwe in succession to Arif Bamarain.

19 — A.R. Deo, Joint Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, was appointed India's Ambassador to Yugoslavia in succession to A.S. Chibb.

— At least three furniture factories were reduced to ashes in a major flre which broke out at Panchkuin Road (Delhi). Property worth several lakh was reported to have been lost though the exact extent of damage was yet to be ascertained.

— Congress-I President Indira Gandhi appointed Tariq Anwar, MP as President of the Youth Congress-I in place of Ghulam Nabi Azad with immediate effect.

20 — A 26 member two tier Andhra Pradesh Ministry, headed by K. Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy, was sworn-in at Raj Bhavan by Governor, K.C. Abraham. The Ministry consisted of 17 Cabinet Ministers and 9 Ministers of State.

— Dr. H.R. Arkeri, eminent agricultural scientist and Chairman of Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board (ASRB) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), died. Dr. Arkeri was 63.

— The export duty on coffee has been raised from Rs. 190 to Rs. 300 per quintal,

— The Karnataka Kranthi Ranga founded by the late Devaraj Urs was split.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi disclosed shortly before she left for Moscow the names of two Indian astronauts who will be participating in an Indo-Soviet joint space flight in 1984. They are IAF test pilots Wing Commander R. Malhotra aad Squadron Leader R. Sharma, selected from nearly 200 candidates who volunteered for the space flight. The two astronauts were currently undergoing training at the cosmonaut centre in USSR.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrived in Moscow on a week long official visit. She was warmly received at the

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airport by President Leonid Brezhnev and other dignitaries. In their banquet speeches, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and President Brezhnev stressed the need for general and complete disarmament, reduction of international tensions and further strengthening of bilateral relations between India and USSR.

September 21 — The Congress (I) President Mrs. Indira Gandhi, has appointed Ramesh Chenthala, MLA (Kerala), President of the National Student Union of India (Congress-I) in place of Subhash Chaudhary.

— The Hind Mazdoor Sabha, one of the few major recognised trade union organisations in the country, has split following decision of a section of its leadership to revive the Hind Mazdoor Panchayat. The HMP had merged with the HMS in February 1979, but the erstwhile Panchayat leadership has again decided to get out of the Sabha and revive the old organisation. The decision was taken at a two day meeting of the leaders of the break away group which ended in Ahmedabad on 20th September.

— The popular autograph collector of the country, Hansraj Saraf, died in Jammu. He was 74. Mr. Saraf, who belonged to Sambha town of Jammu district, has collected more than 1600 autographs of Indian leaders and other personalities.

— The USSR agreed to provide finance as well as technical assistance for expansion of the Vishakapatnam steel plant to four million tonnes capacity from 1.8 million tonnes at present. This was agreed to at the meeting between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and her Soviet counterpart Nikolai Tikhanov in Moscow. They also discussed the Soviet assurance on expansion of Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants, modernisation of the Burnpur Steel Plant, revitalising low yield oil wells in Gujarat and other areas and supply of high transmission equipment for power.

— The well known Marathi poet and short story writer, Sadanand Rege, died in Bombay. He was 59.

22 Baldev Singh, a Lok Dal (Delhi) leader and a former Municipal Councillor, was shot dead at point blank range in a DTC bus in Najafgarh area.

— India has been elected one of the Vice Presidents of the 25th session of the International Atomic Energy Agency's General Conference.

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September 22 Mattoo Lal Matele, veteran freedom fighter, died at Mandala, about 100 km from Jabalpur. He was 70.

— Sant Singh, Akali "Satyagrahi" died in Patiala.

— The USSR honoured the memory of Jawaharlal Nehru, the architect of Indo-USSR friendship, by renaming one the busy centre of Moscow after him. The rechristening was performed by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. This was the first time that Moscow has dedicated a place to the memory of a statesman from the non-communist world.

23 D.A. Nigurdkar, a former special correspondent of the Press Trust of India, died in Bombay. Mr. Nigurdkar, who after leaving PTI in 1960, specialised in financial and economic reporting, was suffering from jaundice.

— Margatham Chandrasekhar, Hayatullah Ansari, V.N. Tiwari and Madan Bhatia were nominated to the Rajya Sabha.

— Reserve Bank of India announced a downward revision of the rupee by 0.30 per cent in relation to the pound sterling, fixing a new middle rate of Rs. 16.55 compared to the previous rate of Rs. 16.50. Thus, the pound sterling has bccome cheaper by five paise.

24 The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, was the new Chancellor of the Visva Bharati, according to the University sources.

— S.N. Munshi, a veteran journalist, died of heart attack in Lucknow. He was 62.

25 All P and T employees drawing upto a maximum of Rs. 1,600 a month will get 22 days wages as productivity linked bonus for last year. This will be one day's wages more than what they received last year.

— Three leaders of the Sanjay Vichar Manch : Akbar Ahmed, Convenor J.N. Mishra, Organising Secretary, Shitla Prasad, were arrested in connection with a shooting incident in which one person was killed in Amethi Parliamentary Constituency on September 19.

26 Nirode Mazumdar, an eminent painter, died. He was 66.

— Pandit Balkrishnabuva Kapileshwari, an eminent disciple of the great Kirana maestro, Abdul Karim Khan, died. He was 86.

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September 26 The Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, N.K.P. Salve, has been unanimously elected President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India at its annual general body meeting held in Bangalore.

27 The six day old strike launched by one lakh muncipal employees of Bombay was called off after an agreement was reached between George Fernandes, leader of the strike and municipal leaders, who included Mayor P.S. Pal and Municipal Commissioner, V.M. Sukhthankar.

— AIADMK candidate S.T.K. Jakkayan won the by-election from the Periyakulam Lok Sabha Constituency in Tamil Nadu with a margin of 69,260 votes over his nearest rival, C.N. Ramakrishan of DMK. Jakkayan polled 2,52,377 votes and Ramakrishnan, 1,83,117 votes. The remaining 23 candidates, including nominees of the Congress-I, Janata Party and the CPI-M forfeited their deposits.

— India has been re-designated to the board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as one of the nine globally most "advanced in the technology of atomic energy, including production of source materials" for 1982-83.

— Narendra Kumar Pannalalji Jain, Ambassador of India to Mexico, has been concurrently accredited as Ambassador to El Salvador, with residence in Mexico.

— Ramchandra Dattatraya Sathe, former Foreign Secretary, has been appointed India's Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany.

— Six leaders of the Akali Dal (Talwandi) resigned from the Party and joined the Akali Dal (Longowal). They were Dr. Gurdip Singh Bhatia, Jathedar Swarn Singh, Jathedar Sukhdev Singh, Jathedar Kartar Singh, Jathedar Pritam Singh and Jathedar Dharam Singh Negi.

28 Gunanand Thakur, former member of Parliament from Bihar, died in New Delhi following a heart attack. He was 48.

— India and Sri Lanka signed an agreement on the establishment of joint enterprises : a sugar factory in Pelavatta and sugarcane plantation in the area of Moneragala. The agreement was signed in Sri Lanka.

— Noted violinist, Arun Vakil, 45, died of cancer.

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September 28 On her way back from a visit to China and Hong Kong, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrived in New Delhi for an overnight stay. She was received at the airport by Minister of State for Tourism, Khursheed Alam Khan and Rajiv Gandhi. On 29th September Indira Gandhi and Margaret Thatcher had wide ranging exchange of views on international issues including the situation in West Asia. During a brief survey of bilateral issues during their 75 minute meeting, Indira Gandhi and Margaret Thatcher also expressed satisfaction at the progress of Indo-UK economic cooperation. Margaret Thatcher was seen off at the airport among others by Indira Gandhi.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced an upward revision of the rupee by 0.30 percent in relation to pound sterling with immediate effect. The spot buying and selling rates were so fixed as to give a new middle rate of Rs. 16.50 per pound against Rs. 16.55 previously.

29 The Supreme Court dismissed an election petition challenging the election of M. Hidayatullah as Vice President of India in August 1979. The petition has been fixed by Madan Lal Dhartipakar, whose own nomination to the post has been rejected by the returning officer.

— Trilateral talks between the Government, Opposition Party leaders and representatives of the movement against aliens in Assam were adjourned till October 1, with serious differences persisting over the powers and functions of tribunals to identify foreign nationals. The Assam agitation leaders insisted on identification of aliens as a primary task.

— Twenty two school children were drowned when their boat capsized in the Nagal pond downstream of the Bhakra Dam.

— India and the USA signed an agreement entitled "development and management training project" for which the USA will provide an initial grant of $ 2.4 million.

— Lt. Gen. S.P. Malhotra, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, retired after nearly 39 years of distinguished service in the Indian army.

— President Zail Singh was given an affectionate send off when he left for Houston, USA, for a medical check up.

October 1 India snatched two silver medals in weightlifting on the opening day of the 12th Commonwealth Games held

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in Brisbane. Bijay Kumar Satpathy bagged the silver in 52.6 kg category while Grunandan Kombiah won the silver medal in the 52 kg category.

October 1 The well known British science writer, David Attenbourough and "Scientific American" editor, Dennis Lanagan, have been awarded the Kalinga prize for 1981.

2 Former Union Finance Minister, C.D. Deshmukh, died in Hyderabad. He was 87.

— India boosted their tally to four (having already won two medals) by bagging a medal each in weightlifting and shooting on the second day of the 12th Commonwealth games held in Brisbane. M. Tamil Selvan claimed a silver in weightlifting. India achieved their first shooting success when Sharad Chauhan and R.K. Vij won the bronze.

— Janata Party launched a 10 day campaign from 82 places of historic and national importance in the country for mobilisation of public opinion against the "misrule of Congress (I) Governments at the Centre and in the States.

— Maruti Udyog Limited of India and Suzuki Motor Company of Japan signed in New Delhi a technical and financial agreement for the production of a "people's car."

— The Minority Commission headed by M.H. Beg expressed itself firmly against the grant of reservation to backward classes as recommended by the Mandal Commission because it will be against the spirit of the Constitution. It added that extension of special privileges to the 3,743 backward castes identified by the Mandal Commission will only sharpen caste conflicts in the country.

3 Four MPs, Bali Ram Bhagat (Lok Sabha), B.P. Maurya, Margaret Alva and Satchidananda (Rajya Sabha) have been admitted to the Congress (I) Parliamentary Party.

4 Four nominated members of the Rajya Sabha, H. Ansari (UP), Madan Bhatia (Delhi), Margatham Chandra Sekhar (Tamil Nadu) and V.N. Tiwari (Punjab) were sworn-in.

— India achieved second success in the shooting competitions (having already got one silver) in the 12th Commonwealth Games, when Indian pair comprising Mohinder Lal and Ashok Kumar got second place in the victory stand (silver medal).

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October 4 Jammu and Kashmir Assembly passed the controversial Resettlement Bill with an overwhelming majority after a debate lasting over four and a half hours. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi announced in both Houses of Parliament that Jammu and Kashmir Resettlement Bill, passed by the State Assembly, will be referred by the President to the Supreme Court for its opinion. This obviously was the understanding arrived at between the Centre and J and K Chief Minister, Dr. Abdullah, when the later visited Delhi last week, a way out of a politically complicated situation.

— The noted Marathi poet, Sopandev Chaudhary, died of cancer in Bombay. He was 75.

6 Armed robbers looted Rs. 1.75 lakhs from a nationalised bank's branch office at Magra in Hoogly district.

— At the end of the first day of summit level talks between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Bangladesh Chief Martial Law Administrator, Lt. Gen. H.M. Ershad in New Delhi, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry announced that most of the outstanding bilateral issues between the two countries which have been raised in the course of intense discussion, have been sorted out. Earlier, on his arrival in New Delhi, Bangladesh President was given a very affectionate welcome by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, her Cabinet colleagues and other high officials. On 7th October India and Bangladesh signed a memorandum of understanding providing for an agreement on the sharing of the Ganga waters for the next one and a half years, within which time the Joint Rivers Commission of the two countries would formulate a scheme for augmentation of the Ganga's flow at Farakka. An agreement was also signed during the two day visit of Lt. Gen. Ershad whereby India would lease out to Bangladesh on a perpectual basis the Tin Bigha area of West Bengal, as a corridor to connect its Dahagram and Angarpota enclaves. The summit consultations between Lt. Gen. Ershad and Indira Gandhi also resulted in the setting up of a Joint Commission to promote economic collaboration and trade between India and Bangladesh. On New Moore Island in the Bay of Bengal, the two leaders agreed that early talks should take place at the level of the Foreign Secretaries to study the additional information exchange on the basis of an in depth examination of the claims of the two sides.

— Chenanda Machiah of India clinched the welterweight boxing bronze to boost the Indian medal tally at the Commonwealth Games to four silvers and two bronzes.

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October 6. Chief Minister of Haryana, Bhajan Lal, inducted two Congress (I) members, Amar Singh Dhanak and Mohan Lal Pipal into the Government by appointing them as Chief Parliamentary Secretary and Parliamentary Secretary respectively. With the addition of these two, the strength of the Ministry has gone upto 25 in an Assembly comprising 90 members. They included 13 Ministers of Cabinet rank and 10 Ministers of State.

— Vice President M. Hidayatullah was sworn-in as acting President at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Chief Justice of India, Y. V. Chandrachud, administered the oath of office and secrecy to him in the presence of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and several of her Cabinet collegues.

7 India and Mozambique signed an agreement in New Delhi under which India will give Rs. 5 crores as concessional credit to Mozambique. The agreement covers, among other things, export of capital goods, technical services and light engineering goods from India to Mozambique.

— The Rajya Sabha passed the Powers of Attorney (amendment) Bill after rejecting by voice vote an Opposition motion seeking to refer the Bill to a select committee.

— Seventeen persons were killed and 17 others injured when the bus in which they were travelling skidded off the road near the Panjali pass in Ladakh and hurtled 5,000 metres down into a nullah flowing along the pass.

8 India left an indelible mark on the 12th Commonwealth Games, leapipg from lowly 12th position in the medals tally to a surprise fifth place, capturing five golds, four silvers and two bronzes on the eighth day of the games. Except for the national champion Syed Modi winning his biggest ever badminton title, the coveted men's singles crown, Indian wrestlers had all the remaining medals to their credit. The 74 kg wrestling gold medal went to Rajinder Singh, while the 68 kg lightweight wrestling crown was bagged by Jaminder Singh. In the battle for 52 kg and 48 kg gold medals, Mahabir Singh and Ram Chander Sarang came out with flying colours, winning the top honours. In the 57 kg, 90 kg, 100 kg and 100 plus kg wrestling competitions, Ashok Kumar, Kartar Singh, Satpal Singh and Rajinder Singh respectively got silver medals. Bronze for India was secured by Jai Prakash Kangar. On 9th October, when the curtain finally rang down on 12th Commonwealth Games, India slipped down to sixth place.

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October 8 Ramesh Chandra Jain, Chairman of the Press Trust of India and Executive Director of Times of India group, was unanimously elected President of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society (IENS) at its 43rd annual general body meeting.

— Speaker Balram Jakhar announced in the Lok Sabha that the group led by Charan Singh in the House would be known as the "Lok Dal".

— The Union Government decided to establish a permanent bench of the Bombay High Court at Panaji for Goa, Daman and Diu with effect from October 30, according to an official release issued by the Union Law Ministry in New Delhi.

9 Col. Jagdev Singh, a freedom fighter and Assistant Director of Medical Services, Third Division of the Indian National Army, died.

— Hari Vishnu Kamath, veteran Parliamentarian and member of the Constituent Assembly, died. He was 76. Formerly of the Indian Civil Service, he resigned in 1938 to join the freedom struggle. In 1949, he joined the Socialist Party. He was one of the leaders of Praja Socialist Party. He was one of the founders of Janata Party. He had also been Speaker of the Madras Assembly. Mourning his death in Delhi, leaders of all political Parties recalled the valuable contribution of H. V. Kamath as a freedom fighter, a member of the Constituent Assembly and a Parliamentarian.

— Over 50 persons, including an MP and several MLAs and MLCs were injured, some of them seriously, when the police resorted to teargas and lathi charge to disperse a procession against the Bihar Press Bill in Patna. The procession was on its way to the Raj Bhavan to present a memorandum to the Governor against the Press Bill and the Cr. P.C. Amdendment Bill.

10 India and Zimbabwe signed a credit agreement for $ 4.2 million. Zimbabwe's Deputy Minister for Finance, Motan Maliango, who signed the agreement on behalf of his Government, said the credit at favourable rates, would allow Zimbabwe to finance the import of essential capital goods and services from India.

11 "Aadharshila" won a gold medal at 31st Mannheim film festival in West Germany. It was one of the 40 entries from various countries for the week long festival, according to a spokesman for the Indian Embassy in Bonn.

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October 11 — Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Babasaheb Bhosale, announced an expansion of the State Ministry. There would be 15 Cabinet Ministers, 13 Ministers of State and 7 Deputy Ministers.

— Four persons were killed in police firing and about 100, including senior police personnel, were injured when a 2,000 strong Akali mob had a pitched battle with the police near the Parliament House. The police fired 16 rounds and burst 162 teargas shells during a two hour confrontation with the roiters who set fire to transport buses and other vehicles. Mr. Justice Yogeswar Dayal, sitting Judge of the Delhi High Court, has been appointed to inquire into the violent incidents in the vicinity of Parliament House. The one man Commission will submit its report within three months.

— The Government issued an order allowing the import of colour television sets as gifts from friends and relations abroad under the open general licence. The order will remain in force till December 4. The intension was to give this facility mainly to meet the requirments during the ASIAD.

12 — Karanjaksha Bonerjee, eminent Bengali poet of the thirties and Consul for El Salvador, died in Calcutta. He was 72. He was a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, London, and one of the Indian members of the Royal Society of Literature of London.

— Lok Sabha adopted the International Monetary Fund and Bank (Amendment) Bill, 1982, by voice vote after Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, emphatically denied that the Government has in any way compromised its domestic policies for getting the IMF loan. He said that more than 90 per cent of the loan is being spent on developmental projects through the country's own resources.

13 — Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh dropped three Ministers and inducted ten new Ministers in the second reshuffle of his 30 member Ministry.

— Mrs. Nirmala Prasad, daughter of Devaraj Urs, died.

— Trambakalal Dave, Minister for Municipalties and Panchayats (Gujarat) and a veteran freedom fighter, passed away in Ahmedabad.

14 — Acharya Jayakrishna Prabhudas Bhansali, veteran freedom fighter and an associate of Mahatma Gandhi, died. He was 85.

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October 14 H.N. Kumbare, leader of the Republican Party of India (Gavai) and former Rajya Sabha member, died. He was 59.

— India and Tanzania have signed an agreement for the operation of air services between the two countries.

— Jeewan Lal Kapoor, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court, died following a heart attack. Mr. Kapoor, a leading jurist of the country who also headed the Inquiry Commission set up to probe Mahatma Gandhi's murder, was born in 1897 and was educated in Lahore.

— Puran Singh, an Akali from Faridkot, who had courted arrest along with 500 satyagrahis at Patel Chowk (Delhi) on 10th October and was lodged in Tihar Jail, died.

15 Over 70 persons were feared killed when the bus in which they were travelling fell into the Narwana branch of the Bhakra canal after colliding with another passenger bus at Madhopur bridge on the Sirhind-Patiala road in Punjab.

— Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Shiv Charan Mathur, expanded his 15 month old Ministry by including five Ministers of State and two Deputy Ministers. On 16th October, Chief Minister Shiv Charan Mathur announced, a major reshuffle of portfolios.

— The Punjab Government, on the advice of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, issued orders for the release of all Akali prisoners who have courted arrest in pursuance of their "morcha". The Prime Minister's message was conveyed to Punjab Chief Minister, Darbara Singh, after the Union Government had come to the conclusion that the release of the prisoners could be the first helpful step to defuse the tense atmosphere in Punjab. In Chandigarh, the Chief Minister informd newsmen that 25,000 Akalis have been ordered to be released. He told UNI that the Governments stand on the Akali's demand is "embiguous and unclear".

— Singhbhum district Congress (I) General Secretary Chand Prased Yadav, was shot dead in Patna.

— The State wide (Tamil Nadu) hartal called by the ruling AIADMK and Opposition Parties including the DMK, to press the Centre to persuade the Karnataka Government to release water in the Cauvery passed off peacefully. According to ths Government sources in Madras, the bandh was total and no untoward incident was reported from anywhere in the State.

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October 15 P. Ramachandran has been appointed Governor of Kerala in place of Jyothi Venkatachellam according to a Rashtrapati Bhavan communique. Former Minister in Morarji Desai's Government, Ramachandran joined the Congress (I) in 1980. At present he was Chairman of the Food Corporation of India. P. Ramachandran assumed office as Governor of Kerala on 27th October.

16 The Customs Tariff (second amendment) Bill, 1982, seeking to check smuggling of certain goods effectively and protect the home industry, secured parliamentary approval. The Bill, passed by the Lok Sabha earlier, was returned by the Rajya Sabha.

— India and France signed an agreement for the supply of 40 Mirage-2000 fighter aircrafts to India. Under the terms of agreement signed in New Delhi, first delivery of the aircraft begins in October 1984. The last of the 40 Mirages will be supplied to the Indian Air Force by December 1986. France has also agreed to give India the latest anti-shipping air-launched Exocet missile.

— Prem Singh, currently Indian Ambassador to Bahrain, was appointed High Commissioner to Mauritius, in succession to S.K. Bhatnagar.

— Sharad Kumar Bhatnagar, currently India's High Commissioner to Mauritius, has been appointed Ambassador to Bahrain in succession to Prem Singh.

17 A Krishnamurthy Aiyer (86), former reporter of "the Mail" and "the Indian Express", died in Madras.

— North Zone claimed Duleep Trophy by defeating West Zone. They won by eight wickets with two mandatory overs to spare to claim the Duleep Trophy for a fourth time.

18 Twenty one scientists received the Hari Om Ashram trust awards for their contribution towards the development of science and technology. The awards, instituted by the Hari Om Ashram trust, covered the period, 1977-80. Dr. M.K.V. Bappu was posthumously given the Meghand Saha award for research in theoretical science. He was the Director of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics. The Sir C.V. Raman award for experimental research in physical sciences was given to : 1977 : Prof. B.V. Shreekantan (Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay), 1978 : Prof. V.G. Bhide (Poona University), 1979 : Dr. G. Venkataraman (Rector, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, BARC, Kalpakkam Tamil Nadu), 1980: Prof. P. T. Narasimhan, (IIT, Kanpur), and Prof,

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A.P. Mitra (National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi). The Homi J. Bhabha award for research in applied sciences was given to : 1977 : Dr. L.K. Doraiswamy (National Chemical Laboratory, Pune), 1978: Prof. E.C. Subba Rao (IIT, Kanpur), 1979: Prof G.S. Sanyal (IIT, Kharagpur), 1980 : Prof. G. S. Laddha (Anna University, Madras). The Meghnad Saha award for research in theoretical science was given to: 1977 : M.K.V. Bappu (Posthumous, Indian Institute of Astrophysies, Bangalore), 1978: Prof. M.S. Narasimhan (Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay), 1979: Dr. Virendra Singh (TIFR, Bombay), 1980: Dr. T. Pradhan (Indian Institute of Physics, Bhubaneshwar). The Jagdish Chandra Bose award for research in life sciences was given to : 1977 : Prof. V.S. Raghavendra Rao (IISC, Bangalore) and Dr. A. N. Radhakrishna (Hyderabad University), 1978: Dr. S. Sriramachari (Institute of Pathology, New Delhi) and Prof. L.K. Ramachandran (Osmania University, Hyderabad); 1979: Prof. Asok Ghosh (Calcutta University), 1980: Prof. B.K. Bachawat (Institute of Medicine, Calcutta) and Prof. U.S. Srivastava.

October 18 — Gajanan Wakankar, Director in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed High Commissioner of India to Guyana in succession to J.N. Bhat.

— One Nihang youth was shot dead when the police opened fire to control a rampaging mob of Akali Dal workers, who set fire to buses, looted shops and smashed street lights in Amritsar. Meanwhile, the Akali Dal President Harchand Singh Longowal dissociated his Party from the violence and described it as unfortunate. He charged the Government with hatching a conspiracy to discredit his Party to "make our morcha fall".

19 — The IBRD approved a loan of $ 165.5 million for a project to explore for oil and gas, both onshore and offshore, in the Krishna-Godavari region.

— The Lok Sabha voted the second supplementary demands for grants (general) totalling nearly Rs. 590 crores and also passed the appropriation bill.

— The National Thermal Power Corporation Limited and the Northern Engineering Projects Ltd., of U.K. have signed an agreement for the erection of Rihand super thermal power station in Uttar Pradesh.

— Ninteen persons, including women and children, died and 13 others were injured in a fire that completly gutted a cracker factory at Dani Limba.

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October 19 The President has appointed Justice Yadunath Sharan Singh and Justice Ramchandra Prasad Sinha, additional Judges of the Patna High Court as Judges of the High Court with effect from the dates they assume charge of their respective offices.

— Shoot-at-sight orders were issued in Amritsar by the Deputy Commissioner. The official statement said that the order was issued in the city in view of yesterday's violent clashes between police and Akali supporters in the vicinity of Golden Temple.

20 Mukhunda Mandal, CPI (M) member of Lok Sabha, passed away. He was 39. He represented the Mathurapur Constituency in West Bengal. He was also member of sixth Lok Sabha.

— N.N. Wanchoo, former Governor of Kerala and Madhya Pradesh, passed away. He was 72.

— The President appointed K. Bhimiah to be the Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court with effect from the date he assumes charge of his office.

— President Zail Singh was discharged from the Texas Heart Institute in Houston, where he underwent a triple by-pass heart surgery on October 6. He has been shifted to a nearby Shamcrock Hilton Hotel, where he will be under observation for the next 10 days.

21 The Jaipur foot, an artificial foot for disabled persons, designed in India and a new sugarcane harvester developed in the Caribbean have won their creators top awards for scientists in Commonwealth development countries. The winners of the Guinness awards are Prof. P.K. Sethi and Ramchand Sharma of the Rehabilitation Research and Regional Limb Fitting Centre in Jaipur, Rajasthan and Dr. Coln Hudson, an agronomist with the Barbados Sugar Producers Association.

— Journalists and non-Journalists from different parts of the country staged a march to Parliament demanding the withdrawal of the Bihar Press Bill and similar legislation in other States. Addressing a rally at the Boat Club near Parliament House, representatives of different Political Parties and trade unions extended their support to the agitation against the Bill.

— Narinder Bedi, a film producer and director, died after a heart attack in Bombay. He was 44.

— The Posts and Telegraph Department issued a special

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stamp to mark the police commemoration day.

October 22 D. Balaramkrishnayya, a former member of Parliament and freedom fighter, died in Vijayawada. He war 80.

— Dr. A.P. Mathur, Professor and Head of the History Department of Agra College has been appointed Vice Chancellor of Agra University for a three year term from the date he takes over charge.

— India and GDR signed a new trade protocol which provides for an estimated turnover of Rs. 2,983 million in 1983 as compared to Rs. 2,588 million this year.

— India has been re-elected to the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), topping the list of 11 winners from Asia and Australia in the poll held at the plenary session in Nairobi.

— K.P.V. Rajan, 69, former Editor of "The Mail" (now defunct). died in Madras.

23 Thirteen farm labourers were kiled and 25 others were injured when a truck in which they were travelling overturned in Moha Ghat, 8 km from Jamkhed in Ahmedabad district.

— The Uttar Pradesh Governor, C.P.N. Singh has appointed H.C. Visvesvaraya, Director General of the Cement Research Institute of India, as the new Vice Chancellor of Roorkee University.

— P.N. Mohule, Additional General Manager (Technical Services), Western Railway, has been promoted to General Manager of the South-Central Railway.

— Union Energy Minister, P. Shiv Shankar, signed an agreement with his Polish counterpart to double the trade between the two countries. Under the new trade agreement signed in Warshaw, India will increase export of tea, jute and other consumer goods and will import from Poland, sulphur, coal mining equipment and soft coal.

— Veteran journalist and freedom fighter, Hirumal Ishardass Jagtinani, died lune. He was 77.

24 Akali Dal President Harchand Singh Longowal appointed a five member committee of senior Party leaders to hold talks with the Central emissary for clarification of certain demands. The announcement came after Mr. Longowal's hour long meeting in Amritsar with the Prime Ministers special emissary Swaran Singh. The

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Committee members are Prakash Singh Badal (Former Punjab Chief Minister), Gurcharan Singh Talwandi, M.P. and Balwant Singh and Sukhjinder Singh, former Minister.

October 24 B.D. Khobragade was re-elected as President of the Republician Party of India (K), at a meeting held in Pnadhurna (M.P).

25 Ch. Panduranga Rao, member of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council, died of heart attack. He was also a member of the State Assembly from 1962-72.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced relaxation in credit availability to vital productive sectors of the economy as also for export while retaining the present restrictive features of the policy, including statutors reserveration, structure of lending rates and refinance rates.

— Rest of India won the Irani cup defeating Delhi by five wickets.

— Swami Hiranand (75), a well known freedom fighter and an associate of martyr Bhagat Singh, died.

26 Admiral O.S. Dawson, Chief of the Naval Staff, left for Moscow for a week's official visit to Russia.

— At least one person was killed and more than 50 injured, many seriously, when a powerful explosion ripped through the Ghanta Ghar Chowk, near Golden temple (Amritsar). Most of those wounded in the grenade burst were men of the Punjab Police and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) doing guard duty.

27 Dilip H. Powale, India's national water polo champion, died in a car mishap in Muscat.

— Noted Gandhian, Pyarelal, passed away in New Delhi. He was 82. Besides being the Private Secretary of Mahatma Gandhi, he was also Editor of "Young India" and contributed many articles to "Harijan". Attracted by Gandhiji's non-cooperation movement, Pyarelal left his studies in 1920 and joined it. He accompanied Gandhiji to London in 1930. Pyarelal also underwent prison terms many times during the freedom struggle.

— Parthasarthy Ramachndran assumed office as the Governor of Kerala.

28 Pandit Roop Ram Sharma, (80) a freedom fighter, died.

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October 29 — Three persons were killed and five others injured when a goods train smashed into a DTC bus at the Zakhira level crossing on New Rhotak road (Delhi).

30 — Posts and Telegraph department issued a stamp on Asian Games based on the ancient Indian Sport. Printed in multicolour, the stamp was in one rupee note from.

31 — The President of the EEC Gaston Thorn, arrived in New Delhi on a six day visit to India. Talking to newsmen at the airport, he expressed concern at the "rather shrinking trade" between India and the EEC, and said that the main purpose of his visit is to find out ways and means of improving it.

— President Zail Singh was accorded an affectionate welcome on his return home after undergoing a successful heart surgery in USA. He was received at the airport by acting President Hidayatullah, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, her Cabinet colleagues and high ranking civil and defence officials.

November 1 — Pathanamthitta, the 13th district in Kerala came into being. Carved mainly out of the districts of Quilon and Alleppey, the new district has a population of over one million and an area of 2,672 Sq. Km more than half of which is forest land.

— At the conclusion of his brief stop over in New Delhi, in the course of which President Zia-Ul-Haq of Pakistan had a discussion with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi followed by a lunch in his honour by her, General Zia told newmen that they had a "heart-to-heart" talk which had been "excellent". A joint Press statement issued at the end of the talks said General Zia and Indira Gandhi have agreed to the establishment of an India-Pakistan Joint Commission and have issued instructions to the respective officials to take steps for the rapid conclusion of modalities and formalities in this regard. It also said that the two leaders have agreed to consider the Pakistani draft on a Non-aggression pact and the Indian draft of a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation. It was also decided that the two would continue their discussion at the time of the Non-aligned summit in New Delhi, in March 1983 when General Zia will be in New Delhi to participate in it.

— The IBRD has agreed to give credit assistance of $ 140 million for six projects connected with the development of the Narmada Valley in Madhya Pradesh during the five year period 1981 to 1986. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) will Co-finance the projects to the extent of $ 25 million. Two of the projects

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(Kolar and Man) are major ones, while the other four (Matir, Dajla Dewada, Chandora and Bundala) are medium projects.

November 1 — The India International Trade Fair 1982, was inaugurated by the Vice-President, M. Hidayatullah, at the Pragati Maidan (New Delhi).

— The Madras Station of Doordarshan discontinued relaying the national Hindi news bulletin from today. The Deputy Directior of the Doordarshan Kendra, K. Uunihikrishanan said, the decision has been taken in response to public demand. The Madras Kendra relay of the Hindi bulletin began when the national transmission was introduced on August 15.

— The Mill-Owners' Association accepted Chief Minister (Maharashtra) Bhosales unilateral proposals intended to end the city textile strike, and issued an ultimatum to workers to return to work. The Secretary General of the Association R.L.N. Vijaynagar told news conference that workers who resume duty by November 15 would be eligi ble to receive the advance of Rs. 1,500 announced by the Chief Minister. He said that "if they do not report for duty by November 30, the mill management will be free to resume the disciplinary action and terminate the services of such workmen and make fresh recruitment. This is the last opportunity provided to the striking workmen to come back to work." Dr. Datta Samant, the strike leader has rejected the Chief Minister's proposals, which include payment of interim relief of Rs. 30 per month with effect from July 1, bonus for 1981 and recoverable balance of Rs. 1,500 to each employee. On 2nd November representatives of various trade union controlled by Dr. Datta Samant met and decided to make preprations for an indefinite "utpadan roko" all over the State soon. Meanwhile, addressing a workers' rally in Bombay, Dr. Datta Samant strongly condemned the ban on street corner meetings in the mill area as yet another instance of the "repressive policies being adopted by the Government." He also gave a call for a mass political awakening throughout the State under the leadership of textile workers. He added that he would consult the Opposition leaders before launching the strike.

— The Press Trust of India (PTI) and the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) estabsished a direct teleprinter link between PTI's New Delhi and APP's Islamabad offices respectively.

2 — Natwar Singh, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs and Riaz Piracha, Pakistans' Ambassador to India,

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signed a protocol on exchange of information about consular access to the nationals lying in jails in the two countries. The two countries agreed to discuss the modalities of repatriation of persons who are under arrest, detention or imprisonment and who have not been convicted after trial and have completed their sentence. The protocol provides for a regular exchange of list of persons arested, detained or imprisoned in either country. The two Governments have agreed to draw up the lists of prisoners and detenus as soon as possible. The protocol said that the consular access will not be available in the case of those detained for political and security reasons or offences. Reqests for such access and the terms there off shall be considered on merits of each case by the Government arresting the persons or holding the detenus. However, the decision in such cases will be conveyed to the other Government within four weeks from the date of receipt of the request.

— Prime Minister's emissary Swaran Singh and Akali leader Sant Longowal's negotiating team held talks on the religious and political demands of Akalis. After the meeting, four of the five members of the Akali Dal Committee presently in New Delhi, said that they have given all clarifications to the issue sought by the Prime Minister through her emissary. Prime Minister later reviewed the situation in the State in the light of the Akali demands with her Cabinet colleagues. Meanwhile Punjab Chief Minister Darbara Singh, Haryana Chief Minister Bhajan Lal and MP's belonging to various Parties from the two States called on the Prime Minister and the other Cabinet Ministers to review the situation in the State. Bhajan Lal, reportedly made it clear that nothing short of implementation in toto of Indira Gandhi's award on Chandigarh would satisfy Haryana. The award envisaged transfer of Fazilka and Abohar to Haryana and Chandigarh to Punjab. Similar was his case with regard to the sharing of the river waters. Punjab Chief Ministers position was that he stands by the Prime Minister's award on transfer of Chandigarh to Punjab and also the formula on sharing of river waters. He said that at any rate, if the Centre desires a fresh examination of the issue by a competent authority, he would not be opposed to it. But his view with regard to the release of murder suspects as demanded by the Akalis remained firm. Meanwnile Sant Longowal said in Amritsar that the current morcha would be withdrawn after all the demands listed in Anandpur Sahib resolution are accepted by the Central Government.

— Prof. Savitri Viswanathan (48) of Delhi University was among 29 foreign nationals from 15 countries on precious

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"crown" list announced by the Japanese Government in Tokyo.

November 2 — A special stamp was issued by the Posts and Telegraphas department to mark the first anniversary of the Troposcatter communication link between India and the USSR. Printed in multicolour, the Rs. 3.05 stamp shows the link at Srinagar.

3 — At the conclusion of the two-day policy level discussion at New Delhi between top scientists of India and the USA, a high power panel of eminent scientists is set up to promote cooperation in priorities areas of fundamental sciences. The panel will take into account infrastructure for research in both the countries and will also work out funding pattern of research programmes. The panel, set up in pursuance at the decisions taken by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and President Reagan during her last visit to Washington, is expected to give a big boost to scientific and technological research in both the countries.

— Behind the scene negotiations with the Akalis aimed at reaching a settlement on their various demands were reportedly broken off, since the Government is not prepared to accept as a pre-condition the Anandpur Sahib resolution on which the Akali demands for political and financial autonomy for Punjab is based. The Government is prepared to accept the religious demands of the Akalis but wants their leaders to come to Delhi for talks on their other demands, such as Chandigarh, Punjabi speaking areas and Punjab's share in river waters. These terms were not acceptable to the Akali leadership, who are insisting on acceptance by the Centre of the Anandpur Sahib resolution as a precondition for the beginning of any talks for which the Akali would come to Delhi. The fortnight long efforts of the Centre to defuse the Punjab situation by releasing *en masse* the 25,000 Akali prisoners who courted arrset in the four month long agitation, and then the Prime Minister sendher emissary Swaran Singh to open talks with the Akali leadership at Amritsar, thus have come to a naught. Meanwhile the Akali Dal decided to go ahead with its plans to embark on a new phase of agitation, apparently disappointed at the outcome of its dialogue with the Prime Minister's emissary.

— Property worth several thousand rupees was destroyed in a fire which broke out in the second floor of the Punjab National Bank Building on Parliament Street (New Delhi) in the early hours today.

4 — Announcing a new phase of agitation from the Golden

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Temple, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, President of the Akali Dal, said that his Party has decided to organise a massive morcha in New Delhi on November 19, inaugural day of the Asiad, to focus attention on "atrocities" perpetrated on the "Sikhs and injustice done to them by the Central and Punjab Government.

November 4 Parliament gave approval to raising the share capital of the Industrial Development Bank of India from Rs. 200 crores to Rs. 500 crores when the Rajya Sabha passed the IDBI (amendment) Bill, 1982 after rejecting an amendment for referring it to a selected committee of the House,

4 Prof. G. Ram Reddy, Vice Chancellor of Osmania University, has been appointed as the first Vice Chancellor of the newly established Andhra Pradesh Open University. President Zail Singh, inaugurated the Open University on August 26 at Nagarjunsagar.

— Ravi L. Kirloskar, Chairman and Managing Director of Kirloskar Electric Company of Bangalore, died. He was 65.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced an upward revision of the rupee by O. 31 per cent in relation to the pound sterling. This revision has made sterling cheapcr by five paise.

— Sir Biren Mookerjee, the doyen among Indian industrialists, died in a South Calcutta nursing home.

— A contract for import of 2.25 million tonnes of Kerosene and high speed oil was signed between India and the USSR in New Delhi under which the USSR will supply crude oil and petroleum products worth Rs. 1,000 crores to India in 1983.

5 The Andaman and Nicobar islands will have its first Lt. Governor with the appointment of Manoharlal Kampani to the post.

The Army which was called out to assist the civic authorities in Baroda on the morning of October 28, following the distrubance in which seven persons died was withdrawn following restoration of peace in the last four days.

— The Government tabled in Parliament the report of the second Press Commission, which starts its recommendations with the enunciation that role of the Press in a developing and democratic society should neither be that

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of an adversary nor an ally of the Government. It feels that no useful purpose would be served by inserting a separate provision in the Constitution on freedom of the Press "as that concept is already embodied in Article 19 (i) (a)". Information and Broadcasting Minister N.K.P. Salve informed Lok Sabha that the Government has decided to set up a ministerial level committee to go into the recommendations and suggestions made by the representative of the State Governments to enable the Centre to take a final decision on each of the recommendations.

November 5 — In a broad daylight dacoity, a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs was looted from the Ballygunge Park Road branch of Indian Overseas Bank in Calcutta.

— The Kenyan ace, Jayant Shah stormed the Indian motor rally scence in his first bid, when he won the gruelling 4,000 km long, third Himalayan car rally termed the "toughest motoring event of the year".

— Parliament adopted two bills to give effect to the Hague and the Montreal conventions to award life imprisonment to hijackers and suitable punishment to anyone committing an act of violance aboard an aircraft. The two bills, the Anit-Hijacking Bill and the Suppression of Unlawful Act against Safety of Civil Aviation Bill had earlier been passed by the Rajya Sabha.

— Ram Chander Shukla, a Congress (I) member of the Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Parishad, died in Karvi in Banda District following a heart attack.

— Romesh Chandra, President of the World Peace Council was honoured at the United Nations with the award of a gold medal for his "outstanding contribution" in the cause of freedom and human dignity in South Africa.

— The World Health Organisation (WHO) has appointed Prof. V. Ramalingaswami of India as Chairman of its prestigious Global Advisory Committee on Medical Research (GACMR) with headquarters in Geneva.

6 — A.B. Nageswara Rao, a former Minister of Andhra Pradesh, died at Rajahmundry. He was 82.

— Dinkar Desai, a former M.P. died in Bombay following a heart attack. He was 74.

— Magasaysay awardee Arun Shourie, Executive Editor of the Indian Express group, has left the organisation after a three year association. Mr. Ramanath Goenka, Chairman of the Express group of newspapers told PTI

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that "in view of recent misunderstanding I suggested to Arun Shourie that we part company."

November 6 — The President has appointed seven judges to the Patna High court. They are-Anand Prasad Sinha, Ram Naresh Thakur, Prabha Shankar Mishra, Bageshwari Prasad Grujaghey, Madan Mohan Prasad, Abhiram Singh and Ram Nandan Prasad. The appointments will take effect from the date they assume charge of their office.

— Rattan Lal Surekha, noted industralist and philanthropist, died. He was 63.

— SGPC President Gurcharan Singh Tohra revealed Akali Dal's idea of an enlarged State of Punjab with territories acquired from Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana. Besides these, the Akalis want the immediate transfer of Chandigrah to them. Tohra told a meeting of Party workers at Patiala that it is wrong to link the transfer of Abohar and Fazilka to Haryana with the handing over of Chandigarh to Punjab. Meanwhile, the "morcha dictator", Sant Longawal hinted that the leadership hopes to resume the talks with the Centre. He said that there is still time for the Government to reconsider its stand and added that the "Sikhs" must be treated as equals and justice given to Punjab before it is too late. He also announced that the first Akali Jatha would leave Amritsar for Delhi on November 18 and would be led by Jeevan Singh Umranangal and Akali Dal General Secretary Prakash Singh Majithia.

— The Sixth round of tripartite talks on the foreigners issue (Assam) were resumed. The Government claimed that the difference with the movement leaders have been narrowed down and it has been agreed that all those foreigners of the 1961-71 period who had obtained citizenship certificate either from the Assam or West Bengal Government would be entitled to stay and vote in Assam. Briefing the press after the negotiation, Defence Minister, R. Venkataraman, who was conducting the talks on behalf of the Goverament, and the Union Home Minister P.C. Sethi, estimated that the two State Governments had issued some 1,50,000 certificates to those who had come from East Pakistan during the period. However, the AASU President Prafulla Kumar Mohanta and the AAGSP Convener Atul Bora disputed the Minister's claim that any agreement had been reached at the meeting. Mohanta said that AASU stand remains the same, that is to say, all foreigner who had entered Assam between 1961 and 1971 must be identified, their names struck off the electoral rolls and they should be sent out of Assam.

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November 7 Delivering his Presidential address at the Virat Hindu Sammelan in Patna, Dr. Karan, Singh, MP and President of the Virat Hindu Samaj delcared that "while Hinduism does not have any ill will against other religions, it will not accept to be permanently at the receiving end as far as aggressive proselytising is concerned". He asked the gathering of about half a million to "safeguard your faith and legitimate interests".

— Inaugurating the All India Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative bodies in Patna, Lok Sabha Speaker Balram Jakhar said it should be clear to all that if the legistators are brought to a level where display of physical force rather than well reasoned arguments hold the field, irrepasable harm would be done to these institutions.

8 BJP MLA of Rajasthan, Sohanlal Bansiwal died in Jaipur following a heart attack. He was 63.

— The devastating cyclone that rocked almost entire Gujarat barring four northern districts left more than 379 people dead, thousands homeless and a toll of over 16,000 heads of cattle. Amreli, Bhavnagar and Junagadh were worst affected districts, together accounting for more than 210 deaths.

— Election Commission appointed three more observers, in addition to the existing 40, in the November 10 Nagaland Assembly elections. The new observers were N.D. Tayal, IAS and P.N. Rau, IAS, both Joint Secretaries to the Government of India and S.C. Jain, Under Secretary in the Election Commission.

— India will export cotton fabric worth Rs. 7 crore to the USSR under a contract signed in New Delhi by the representatives of the Soviet firm exportlin and eleven Indian firms.

— Janata MP Ravindra Verma presented his revised seven-point formula at the informal talks between the Government and the Assam movement leaders. His revised formula now envisages classification of 1961-71 foreigner into four categories instead of three suggested earlier. It laid down different criteria for settling their future. The revised formula suggested retention in Assam of foreigner in the first two categories, (I) those who have applied for and secured citizenship certificates and (2) those who have been settled, by the Assam Government and have applied for but not attained citizenship. Regarding the third category those who have not been settled by the Assam Government but whose names are

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included in the voters list. According to Verma's formula objection can be filed against them and their claims, if any, will be decided by the tribunals. Only the fourth and the last category of those foreigners whose names are not even included in the voters list, will be dispersed. AASU President, P.K. Mohanta, told newsman after the the meeting that acceptance of Ravindra Vermas' formula would mean that only a few thousand of 1961-1971 immigrants into Assam would be dispersed outside the State, which would not be acceptable to the people of Assam. He added that the movement leaders have agreed to let the 1951-61 (immigrants) into Assam stay on only because the Government had shown its willingness to discuss dispersal of all 1961-71 foreigners.

November 8 — Pandit Sitaram Pant, known as Vaidya, a veteran freedom fighter of Kumaon region, died at Nainital. He was 82.

9 — The Centre made another conciliatory gesture to the Akalis by asking the Punjab Government to release all those detenus against whom there is no tangible evidence of involvement in criminal acts, The decision followed a high level review of the situation in the State by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and some of her colleagues in view of the need to ease the tension in the State and to prevent the Akalis from intensifying their agitation. The Akali leaders particularly Jarnail Singh Bindranwale, had handed to the Prime Minister's emissary Swaran Singh a list of 45 detenus who had been detained without reason and who should be released immediately. They were sure over the detention of those innocent Akalis. The Punjab Government had been advised to review the cases of all Akali detenus, go into individual records and release forthwith those against whom no case has been established.

— P.N. Thapar, one of the seniormost ICS officers of Punjab cadre, died of a heart attack, He war 79.

10 — Chief Minister of Andra Pradesh Vijay Bhaskara Reddy expanded his Ministry by inducting five new Cabinet rank Ministers, raising it to 32. The new Minister—M.V. Krishna Rao, Ahmed Sharif, M. Baga Reddy, N. Amarnath Reddy and K. Keshav Rao, were administered the oath of office and secrecy by Governor K.C. Abraham.

— Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski arrived in New Delhi on a four day visit to India.

11 — Denmark will build a fisheries and oceanographic research vessel for India, according to an agreement on

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project aid signed in New Delhi. The aid will also support consultancy and supply of equipment coming from Denmark for the Thal fertilizer project in Maharashtra. The total value of the credit is 150 million Danish Kroner (Rs. 16.7 crores). It is interest free and repayable over 35 years, including a grace period of 10 years.

November 11 — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi handed over a cheque for Rs. 1,00,000 to PLO Ambassador Faisal Owaida at a function at her residence. She hoped that situation would improve in West Asia and conveyed her greetings to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian people.

12 — The Dadabhai Naoroji Memorial Prize Fund award for 1982 has been given to Arun Shourie for his "distinguished contribution to Indian Journalism" The award carried a prize of Rs. 5,000.

— The fifth session of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technology Cooperation concluded with the signing of a protocol by I. Hetenyi, Hungarian Minister for Finance and N.D. Tiwari, Union Minister for Industry, Steel and Mines. The protocol covers important new areas of cooperation in industry, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, trade and agriculture. Cooperation, including technology transfer, production, sharing the joint ventures third countries will be intensified. With this end in view in a detailed mutual identification of the specific areas of expertise has been initiated by organising workshops and conferences sponsored jointly by the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

— India and Mexico decided to set up a Joint Commission to give effect to an agreement initialed in New Delhi between the two countries. The agreement seeks to further the cooperation on the basis of existing complimentaries of their economics and to strengthen bilateral economic relations on a long term basis. In the field of industrial cooperation, the two countries agreed to take steps to promote Joint Indo-Mexican investment, transfer and development of technology, training of personnel and cooperation between small and medium scale industries. Spelling out areas of priority for cooperation, the agreement has listed agro-industry, energy, machine tools, fertilizers and capital goods industry in that order. Under a separate provision, the two countries will promote cooperation in the field of energy, particularly in the area of petroleum exploration. The agreement was concluded in accordance with spirit of the Indo-Maxican Joint Communique issued on January 29, 1981 on the conclusion of the visit to India of Maxican President Jose Lopez.

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November 12 Manoharlal Kampani was sworn in as the Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Island by Justice R.M. Dutta of Calcutta High Court.

— Netherlands will provide a grant of about Rs. 6 lakh relief to 1,000 flood affected families in four villages in Bihar, according to a Netherlands Embassy release.

— North Zone retained the C.K. Nayudu Trophy for the third year in succession, defeating West Zone.

13 Prof. B.V. Sreekantan, Director of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research was selected for the second R.D. Birla Memorial Award of the Indian Physics Association for his work in the field of cosmic ray physics. Nobel laurete Abdus Salam was the first receipient of the award.

— The fifth Nagaland Assembly election having ended in a tie, both the ruling NNDP and Congress (I) put forward their respective claims in forming a new Ministry with the help of Independents. With only one result outstanding, the NNDP secured 24 seats, the Congress(I) 23, and the Independents 12. Chief Minister J. B. Jasokie said in a signed press release that 7 of the 12 Independents have joined his Party while Congress (I) claimed the support of 8 independents.

— India and Ethiopia signed, in Addis Ababa a trade agreement to facilitate, strengthen, diversify and expand trade between the two countries. The agreement, which would be valid for three years, provides for automatic renewal for another three years unless termination is is sought by anyone of the parties.

— The national award for work on child welfare has been jointly won by the Mukkon Muslim Orphanage in Kozhikedie district of Kerala and the Thiaga Ani Social Service Society of Pondicherry. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. one lakh and a citation. The national award for individual contribution has been given to N. C. Sengupta, founder Director of Bikash Bharat Welfare Society, Calcutta. This award carries a cash prize of Rs. 20,000 and a citation.

— A number of Akalis were detained as a precautionary measure from different parts of the city in a late night crack down in order to ensure a peaceful full dress rehearsal of the opening day celebrations of the Asian Games on November 14. The decision to arrest the Akalis followed the go ahead signal given by the Centre to take all necessary steps to meet the threat of the pre-

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posed Akali demonstration on November 19, the opening day of Asiad.

November 13 Raghu Raj Chairman and Managing Director of Air India, has been unanimously elected President of the International Air Transport Association at the annual general meeting being held at Geneva. Raghu Raj succeeds Armin Baltens Weiler, President of Swissair.

14 C. Narayan Pillai, freedom fighter and former member of Rajya Sabha, died in Trivandrum. He was 80.

— The festival of India which opened in London on March 22, this year in the presence of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Prince Charles, concluded in the presence of Prince Gloucester and Rajiv Gandhi, M.P. and his wife, Sonia Gandhi, who flew in from New Delhi specially for the occasion.

India and the UN Economic Commission on Africa (UNECA) have agreed to cooperate on various developmental projects in Africa. India has decided to contribute an equivalent of $3.5 lakhs for financing some of the various pilot projects relating to the industrial development decade of Africa which is being implemented by UNECA.

— The Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium was formally dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The Chief function watched by more than 50,000 spectators, was followed by a full dress rehearsal of the opening ceremony of the Asian Games, lasting nearly four hours.

— Kondaji Basappa,a former Union Deputy Minister and former lok Sabha member from Karnataka, died. He was 68.

— Nine people were burnt to death in a fire which engulfed a small plastic toy manufacturing unit in the crowded Raja Garden (Delhi) locality.

— Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, arrived in Moscow to attend the funeral of the Soviet President, Leonid Brezhnev.

15 Acharya Vinoba Bhave, father of the Sarvodaya and Bhoodan movements, passed away at his Paramdhan Ashram at Paunar, a week after he gave up food and also medical treament being given to him following a heart attack on November 5. He was 88. Acharya Bhave, who pioneered the anti cow slaughter movement, was

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born on September 11, 1885, in Gagoda village of Maharashtra's Raigad district. He took a vow of celibacy at the age of 10 and dedicated his services to the country. Acharya Bhave, who joined the Sabarmati Asharam in 1916, was made the head of the new Asharam at Wardha by Mahatama Ganthi. He was consigned to the flames at 11.40 a.m. on 16th November.

November 16 — T. Thiruvengadam, Coach of the Indian Womens team for the Asiad, died of lung cancer. He was 52.

17 — Bangladesh and India achieved a major break through in promoting mutual economic cooperation by deciding to expand and diversify their bilateral trade agreeing to launch joint industrial ventures and signing a five-year technological and scientific research agreement at the end of two days of talks in the Joint Economic Commission in New Delhi. India has agreed to provide a line of credit to Bangladesh worth Rs. 20 crores on a Government to Government basis and Rs. 40 crores from the EXIM Bank, A. R. Shamsud Doha, Bangladesh Foreign Minister, said that besides the Rs. 60/- crore credit there is a possibility of Bangladesh getting more financial assistance from other Indian sources and added that a line of credit of Rs. 20/- crores for the expansion of textile indus try in Bangladesh is also being explored.

— Over 40 employees of All India Radio and Doordarshan in the Capital were detained under the Essential Services Maintenance Act. Those arrested included members of the engineering staff, tecnicians, drivers and Class IV employees. The Government had earlier banned strike in AIR and Doordarshan Under Section 3 (i) of the ESMA. On 18th November office bearers of the Doordarshan and All Iadia Radio emplooyees joint forum decided to suspend their agitation demanding bonus.

— A seven member Congress (I) Ministry in Nagaland headed by S.C. Jamir was sworn-in. The Governor S.M.H. Burney administered the oath of office and secrecy to the new Ministers at a simple ceremony in Kohima. The new Ministry took office following the Governors dismissal last night of the Naga National Democratic Party Ministry led by Jasokie who had expressed his inability to "parade his supporters by the deadline served on him. Instead, the former Chief Minister preferred a "trial of strength" on the floor of Assembly by November 25.

— The U.K. will provide grant assistance of Rs. 193.3 crore (£ 117 million) to India for the Super Thermal Power

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Station to be built at Rihand in U.P. An agreement to this effect was signed in New Delhi by the British High Commissioner, R.L. Wadegery and Secretary for Economic Affairs in the Finance Ministry, M. Narasimhan.

November 18 The 1981 Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding was presented to Mr. Myrdal and Gunnar Myrdal at a special function held at the Embassy residence by the Indian Ambassader to Sweden, K.N. Bakshi, on behalf of the President of India.

— At least 22 persons were killed and 40 injured when an overcrowded private mini bus dashed against a roadside culvert and fell into a deep ditch filled with water near Makhdampar, 25 km from Gaya.

— India will get French assistance of 575 million Francs (Rs. 79.35 crores) under a new agreement with the French Government signed in New Delhi. This is part of the financial assistance of one billion French francs for 1982-83 from the French Government to India. The assistance will be used for purchase of goods and services from France including consultancy charges, according to an official release.

— Indian Railways will receive $ 400 million in loans to help pay for improvements and maintenance, the IBRD said. Indian Railways will use the money to improve locomotive and freight cars and to built a maintenance facility at Patiala, Punjab. The IBRD said it will also lend the Railways $ 200 million for 20 years at a variable interest free. The other $ 200 million will come from IDA, as interest from loan.

19 Asia's premier sporting event, the 9th Asian Games, opened amidst solemnity and pageantry at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi. A capacity crowd of over 70,000 echoed in jubiliation as President Zail Singh declared open the Games, the biggest to be conducted till dates. Earlier, 33 teams marched into the stadium in alphabatical order to the accompaniment of music. Following the tradition, India the host country, marched last with ace shooter Karni Singh carrying the tricolour. The crowning moment came when the Asian Games torch carried from the National Stadium, the venue of the first Asian Games where it was lit by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi entered the stadium. The last lap was run jointly by veteran hockey player Balbir Singh and ace runner of yesteryears, Deanne Syme, who finally lighted the flame at the stadium. After this India's athlete Geeta Zutshi performed the oath taking on behalf of all the participants. This was followed by

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some very impressive and mandatory items and dance programmes from the various States of the Indian Union with "Unity in diversity" as the theme. The three hours colourful spectacle came to an end with musical score for welcome to Appu, the Asian Games mascot, The ninth Asiad has brought to New Delhi about 5,000 participants from 33 nations to compete for supremacy in 21 disciplines in the spirit of "friendships and fraternity for ever".

November 20 — Chimanlal Chakumbhaishah, eminent solicitor and Chairman of the Saurashtra Trust, publisher of the Janmabhoomi group of newspapers, died. He was 80.

— About 125 Akalis led by the Shrimoni Gurdhwara Prabandhak Committee President, G.S. Tohra, M.P., courted arrest peacefully at the Patel Chowk to demand implementation of the Anandpur Sahib Resolution, on the third day of the Morcha in New Delhi.

— K.P.S. Menon, former Foreign Secretary and India's Ambassador to China and the USSR, passed away at his residence in Ottappalam in Kerala. He was 84. A diplomat par excellence, Menon set the standard for Indian Foreign Service and latter was an ardent advocate of International understanding and peace.

— Indian Ambassador to Vietnam, Kuldip Sehdev, announced that India will donate textile fabrics, clothes and medicines worth Rs. 5 million to Vietnam for the victims of "Hurrican Nancy" which hit that country recently.

22 — The five day old seven member Congress (I) Ministry headed by S. C. Jamir was expanded with the induction of seven more Ministers.

— Rajendra Shankar, elder brother of the sitar maestro, Pandit Ravi Shankar, died in Madras. He was 77.

23 — At least 24 persons were killed and 26 others injured when a Nagaland State Transport bus met with an accident near Chetheba, 20 km from Kohima.

— Sitanath Brahma Choudhury, a well known Assamese poet and President of the Asom Sahitiya Sabha, died at Bongaigaon. He was 74.

24 — Justic Abdur Sattar, Justice Jeewanlal Shar and Justice Amrit Lal Parmanand Das Ravani, at present Additional Judges of the Gujarat High Court, have been appointed by the President as permanent Judges of the same court.

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November 25 AASU and AAGSP gave a call for a 24 hour Assam bandh on December 2 in continuation of their agitation on the foreign nationals issue. Releasing the joint decision in Gauhati, leaders of both the organisations said that this phase of the programme is mainly to oppose the Government's move to hold elections in the State without arriving at a solution to the foreign nationals issue.

— Eighteen people were killed and 14 injured, four of them seriously, when a lorry in which they were travelling, fell into a roadside ditch on Belgaum-Gokak road, 30 km from Belgaum.

— Gertrude Emerson Sen, 93, eminent journalist and historian. died in Almora.

— Mrs. Tara Ali Baig, President of the International Union for Child Welfare has been elected President of Honour of the International Union of Child Welfare at Geneva.

26 G. Subramaniam, a freedom fighter and close disciple of Mahatma Gandhi and Acharya Vinoba Bhave, died in Madras. He was 72.

— India and France signed an agreement on the supply of nuclear fuel for the Tarapur Atomic Powor Plant. According to an official spokesman, the agreement signed in New Delhi, was arrived at after detailed discussions which have taken care of "respective concerns" of the two sides. The agreement was signed between H.N. Sethna, Principal Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy and Andre Ross, French Ambassador in New Delhi.

— Prof. J.S. Bajaj, a well known diabetic specialist at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, has been elected President of the International Diabetic Federation for a three year term.

— S. Kesava Adityan, AIADMK, MLA, from Tamil Nadu who sustained head injuries in a car accident. passed away. He was 49.

27 President Francois Mitterand of France arrived in New Delhi on a four day State visit to a warm welcome. He was received at the airport by President Zail Singh, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and defence officials and members of the diplomatic corps. President Mitterand was accompanied by his Minister of External Aflairs, Claude Cheysson, Minister of Foreign Trade, Michael Jobert, Minister of Culture, Jack Lang and senior officials. President Mitterand and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi revie-

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wed the world situation and bilateral relations at an exclusive 70 minute meeting. Later, the two leaders were joined by their Foreign Ministers. At the Ministerial level talks, France expressed its exviction that there is considerable potential for cooperation, for India has itself developed a sophisticated industrial, technological and scientific infrastructure. The two sides discussed measures to remove the constraints coming in the way of speedy utilisation of the French credits. The Indian side also wanted Frence to use influence to ensure that Indian goods are given greater access to markets of the EEC countries.

November 29 — Akhil Mohan Patnaik, an eminent Oriya novelist, died at Cuttack. He was 53.

— At least 12 persons, including two women, were killed and six injured when a truck carrying them met with an accident near Gaurichak, about 10 km from Patna.

— Mrs. Shano Devi, a former Speaker of the Haryana Vidhan Sabha, died. She was 82.

— The pound sterling has become dearer by 10 paise following the devaluation of the rupee by 0.65 percent. RBI has fixed the middle rate at Rs 15.65 against the earlier Rs. 15.55.

— Promode Dasgupta, seniormost politburo member of the CPI (M), died in Beijing after a heart attack. He was 73. Dasgupta, who was Secretary of the CPI-M's West Bengal State Committee and Chairman of the ruling left Front in the State, was being treated in a Beijing hospital for asthama.

30 — Gurchran Singh Tohra, a Rajya Sabha member and a senior Akali Dal leader, was unanimously declared elected President of the SGPC at the general body meeting held in Amritsar. The other three office bearers and 11 executive members were also declared elected without any formal election.

— The Indian Ambassador to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), Bhagirath Lal Das, has been elected President for 1983 of thc contracting parties to the accord, GATT announced.

— President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt arrived in New Delhi. He was received at the airport by President Zail Singh, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, her Cabinet colleagues, senior officials and members of the diplomatic corps.

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December 1 The 28 member second Antarctica expedition team left by the "Polar Circle", a chartered Norweigian ship, from Murmugo Port. The 60 day expedition, to be carried out with logistic support by the Army, Navy and Air Force, would conduct, in addition to the scientific experiments, a survey to select a site for a permanent Indian research station in the Antarctic region. The team, headed by V.K. Raina, Director of the Geological Surevy of India, includes 11 scientists and three doctors.

— Adoor Gopalakrishnan's film "Elippathayam" (rat trap) has been awarded the British Film Institute's special award for being the most original and outstanding films among all films shown at the National Film Theatre in London throughout 1982. Another Indian film to win laurels in London was Shashi Kapoor's "36 Chourangee Lane" which received two awards at Britian's premier film occasion, the standard film award.

— The EEC is to give $4 million to India to help protect two States from the devastating effects of cyclones. According to an EEC spokesman in Brussels, the amount provided under a special aid agreement, is for the building of of shelters in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu and for equipment to monitor cyclones.

— India and Egypt agreed to revive the joint economic commission. The decision was taken at high level discussions between Indian and Egyptian delegation in New Delhi. This followed the broader understanding reached between the visiting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The two leader discussed the international situation with particular reference to the West Asian situation, the role of Nonaligned movement and bilateral issues. At a joint press briefing, spokesman of Indian and Egypt disclosed that President Mubarak and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had considered the Franco-Egyptian draft resolution on West Asian peace along with other peace initiatives taken recently.

— Lady Jerbai Mody, wife of Sir Homi Mody and mother of Piloo Mody, died in Bombay.

— Norway is to provide India an assistance to the tune of Rs. 20.02 crore during 1983. This represents an increase of 12 percent over the assistance given in 1982. Agreed minutes to this effect were signed in New Delhi by B. M. Oza, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and M. Pederser, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on behalf of their respective Governments.

2 Afghanistan and India have agreed to cooperate on public

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health and rehabilitation of the handicapped. The agreement signed in Kabul, provides for a new 300 bed maternity hospital, expansion of the Kabul Childrens' hospital, a polyclinic and a rehabilitation centre for the handicapped. India would also send its medical experts for the rehabilitation centre.

December 2 — The 24 hour Assam bandh called by the AASU and AAGSP in protest against the Centre's move to "impose" election in the State and the "delay" in solving the foreign nationals issue evoked only partial response with no major incidents reported and 12 prominent movement leaders among 330 arrested. However, torrorist bombs caused minor damage to a railway track and a National Highway in Central Assam. According to official sources, attendance in Government offices was normal. Shops and markets were closed and all modes of private vehicles went off the road. Trains, airlines and Government owned Assam State Corporation buses operated with heavy armed escorts.

— The fourth international threo-continent film festival has awarded the Indian film maker, Aribam Syam Sarma, its top prize for his film "Imagi Minghem".

— Seven persons, including an assistant engine driver, were killed and 41 injured when the Howrah bound 5UP Rourkela Express rammed into a stationary goods train between Manoharpur and Jaraikela stations, about 380 km from Calcutta. The express train engine was badly damaged and the three adjoining bogies were derailed and twisted.

3 — India's new Amabassador to Vatican, Thomas Abraham, presented his credentials to Pope John Paul II.

— The Jnanpith award winner, Bishnu Day, died in Calcutta after protracted illness.

4 — India finished fifth in the overall medal tally with 57 medals, as the ninth Asian Games came to a close in New Delhi. This included 13 gold, 19 silver and 25 bronze medals. India's tally was two more than what it got at the last Bangkok Asiad. China dethroned eight time Asiad Champions Japan with a total of 153 medals (61 gold, 51 silver and 41 bronze). Japan followed closely, also with 153 medals (57 gold, 52 silver and 44 bronze). South Korea came third with 28 gold, 28 silver and 37 bronze. North Korea, fourth, with 17 gold, 19 silver and 20 bronze.

— Ram Raj Prasad Singh, a Congress (I) MLA and former

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Bihar Minister, died at his Kankarbagh residence in Patna. He was 62.

December 4 The sacred flame, which kept vigil over the 16 day, 21 event sports extravaganza of Asia was extinguished at 15.12 p.m. and the ninth Asian Game came to an end in New Delhi. The solemn closing ceremony drenched the packed Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium with music and colour. The closing ceremony of the Asian Games which started on November 19 began with a march by the athletes who went round the vast stadium waving their hands at the multitudes who had assembled there. As the Asian Games flag and the flag of India and South Korea (the hosts of the tenth Asian Games) were hoisted, Raja Bhalindra Singh, President of the Asian Games Federation, declard the games closed with a call to the youth of Asia to reassemble in four years at Seoul to give further proof of their powers and skill. He thanked President Zail Singh and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for their personal efforts in making the Asian Games a great success. This was followed by a cultural pageantry with the theme "unity in diversity". A special dance bidding farewell to "Appu", the Asian Games mascot, and a "musical ride" by 32 horses and men of the President's bodyguards and 61 Cavalry added a parting touch to the great occasion. The unforgetable ceremony ended appropriately with the "Beating Retreat" played by 112 buglers. Simultaneously, a five gun salute rang out, while the sacred flame of the ninth Asian Games was slowly extinguished. Following the lowering of National flag, Raja Bhalindra Singh passed on the games flag and the torch to Lt. Governer Jagmohan of Delhi for safe custody until the next games are held. It was a moment, at once touching and proud. With that the ninth Asian Games belonged to posterity.

— Within a day of the breaking up of five Party non-communist Progressive Democratic Front, three constituents of the Front and the CPI and the CPI-M forged an alliance and agreed to contest 176 seats in the forth coming Andhra Pradesh Assembly elections. The other Front partners were the Janata Party, Lok Dal and Republician Party of India (Khobargade). The break up of the 176 seats to be contested by these Parties was CPI-62, Lok Dal-46, Janata Party-43, CPI (M)-29, and RPI (K)-6.

5 The body of CPI-M leader Promode Dasgupta who died in Beijing on November 29, was cremated in Calcutta in the presence of senior Party members, Left Front leaders and thousands of partymen.

— Harchand Singh Longowal, President of the Akali Dal

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announced that the Dal morcha would be intensified after December 10. Addressing a press conference in Amritsar, he appealed to the Sikhs to remain prepared for a long drawn struggle with the Centre and asserted that this struggle will continue till all the demands are met. He reminded the Sikh community of the sacrifice it would be required to make in achieving its goal.

December 5 — The Maharashtra Education Minister, Mrs. Shardchandrika Patil, died at her residence at village Chopada in Jalgaon, following a heart attack. She was 54.

— Mahmood Saran Khan, a Lok Dal MP from Bulandshahr, U. P. passed away. He was 65.

— Veteran journalist of Andhra Pradesh, N. Varadachari (62), correspondent of All India Radio and PTI at Tirupati, who earlier served as correspondent of the Indian Express and Andhra Prabha for 40 years, died in Madras.

6 — Congress (I) nominee Vijay Kumar Choundary was declared elected to the Bihar Assembly defeating his nearest rival Ram Bilas Raibimal of the CPI by a margin of 28,500 votes from the Dalsingsarai Constituency.

— Congress (I) nominee Rajindra Singh was declared elected to the Uttar Pradesh Assembly in a 10 cornered by-election from Patiali Constituency. He defeated his nearest rival Jasbir Singh of the BJP by a margin of 5,160 votes. Rajinder Singh polled 24,654 votes against 19,494 polled by Jasbir Singh.

— H.C. Sarin, currently Chairmen of Railway Reforms Committee, was appointed India's Ambassador to Nepal in succession to N.P. Jain.

— In West Bengal CPI (M) retained the Moyna Assembly seat when its nominee Pulin Bera defeated his nearest Congress (I) rival Bhusan Boloi by 9,746 votes in the by-election. Bera secured 38,342 votes against Bhusan Boloi's 28,596 votes in a four cornered contest.

— India and GDR signed a protocol on cooperation in the field of physical culture and sports for the year 1983-84. The protocol, signed in New Delhi, among other thing provides for continuation of the training of Indian sports experts and cadres in the GDR as well as making available GDR coaches to India for the benefit of sports in both the countries.

— India's High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Indraprastha Khosla, presented his credentials to President Ahsanuddin

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Choudhry in Dhaka.

December 7 The 1981 Kalinga prize for the popularisation of science has been jointly awarded to David F. Attenbourough, British author and television producer and Dennis Flannagan, Editor of the "Scientific American". Kalinga prize, which includes £ 1,000 from the Kalinga Foundation Trust and the UNESCO silver medal, is named after the Kalinga empire of the scholar emperor Ashoka and was created in 1952 by Biju Patnaik, industrialist and former Chief Minister of Orissa.

— Chief Minister of Bihar, Jagannath Mishra, announced that his Government would amend the Bihar Press Bill in the light of suggestions made by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. In a statement issued in New Delhi, he denied that he has made the Bill a prestige issue. While reaffirming his faith in freedom of the Press he urged journalists themselves not to make the Bill a prestige issue and added that Government would keep in mind the suggestions made by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting as also those of the journalists while proposing amendments.

— Congress (I) nominee Ravindra Rai was declared elected to the Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha in the by-election from the Lalganj Consituency defeating his nearest rival Ish Dutt Yadav of the Lok Dal by a margin of 9,425 votes. The rest of the 22 candidates, including those of BJP, CPI and the Janata Party lost their deposits.

— Maganbhai Barot, former Union Deputy Ministry and a member oft he Lok Sabha, was expelled from the Congress (I) for six years for his anti-Party activities. This decision was taken by the disciplinary action committee of the AICC (I). Barot was among the prime movers of the revolt staged by some partymen and MPs in Gurjarat demanding the ouster of Chief Minister Madhav Singh Solanki.

— Noted industrialist S. P. Godrej has been appointed the next Sheriff of Bombay by Maharashtra Governor I. H. Latif

— Sixteen persons were killed and about 40 injured when the roof of a house collapsed at Badagaon village, about 75 km from Ujjain in Shajapur district.

— Swami Shananad Saraswati died in Jhansi following a heart attack. He was 60.

— Unidentified gunmen shot and seriously wounded two

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Indian employees of the Indian High Commission in Kampala (Uganda). One of employee, I. V. Jacob, later succumbed to his injuries.

December 7 — The Union Government invited the Akali leaders for a dialogue to find an amicable solution to their religious and political demands. In a letter to the Akali Dal President Harchand Singh Longowal, Home Minister P. C. Sethi said that the Government has "an open mind" and would respond without going into the past, to the solution of the Akali demands. However, the Home Minister made it clear that those Akali demands involving the interest of the neighbouring States could not be settled unilaterally. He also requested the Akalis to give up coercive methods of agitation and morchas.

8 — A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court adjourned four election petitions challenging the election of Zail Singh as President of India. President Zail Singh, in reply to the election petition, told the Supreme Court that the allegations made by 27 members of Parliament are "false, frivolous and irrelevent" and that they do not come under the grounds specified in Section 18 of the Presidential and Vice Presidential Election Act, 1952. He contended that the petitions are vague and lacking in material particulars.

— Des Raj Mahajan, Minister for Transport (Himachal Pradesh), passed away following a heart attack.

— An indefinite curfew was clamped in several parts of Baroda following violent group clashes in which several people were seriously injured. Police reinforcements were rushed to the city to control the situtation.

— The noted Urdu journalist and founder Editor of "Milap", Ranbir Singh, died in New Delhi. He was 75.

— A two hour black out called by the AASU and AAGSP passed off without any untoward incident, according to official sources. People in different parts of Assam observed the black out by switching off the lights in their residence, demanding an early solution to the foreign national's issue.

9 — Akali Dal President Harchand Singh Longowal said there is no question of further talks with the Centre as they have already given all clarifications regarding their demands to the Prime Minister's emissaries. In his reply to the Home Minister P. C. Sethi's letter for reopening of talks, he said "no fruitful purpose" will be served by "sitting on the negotiating table". Refuting the charge

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that threats had been held out by Akalis, he pointed out that the agitation has been peaceful despite provocations.

December 9 Hari Krishna Jain, Director of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, has been selected for the prestigious Borlaug award for 1981 for his outstanding contribution in the field of agriculture. The award will be presented at a function at India International Centre (New Delhi) on December 13.

— India and Algeria signed a cultural pact in New Delhi. It lays down specific mutual activities between the two countries in the field of education, scientific research, culture, health, sports and other fields.

10 The strength of the Congress (I) Ministry in Manipur headed by Rishang Keishing goes upto 20 with the induction of four Ministers of State. They are : Padnam Achan Singh, Ibotomi Singh, Satkboal and L. Amujao Singh.

11 Akali Dal President Harchand Singh Longowal declared that the Party morcha would continue till the demands are met and that the party's four MPs and 37 MLAs would submit their resignation to the appropriate authorities on January 26, 1983, in protest against the "dictatorial attitude of the Government". At a press conference in Amritsar, he, however, categorically denied the Akali Dal's plan to gherao Government offices or public places as part of its efforts to intensify the morcha.

— The Government banned strikes in the Food Corporation of India (FCI) under the Essential Service Maintenance Act (ESMA). Employees of the FCI staged a token strike demanding wage revision and change of promotion policy.

— India and Vietnam signed a trade protocol in New Delhi. It provides for India exporting a variety of goods including caustic soda, cotton yarn, insecticides and antibiotics to Vietnam. In turn, India will buy form Vietnam cement, rubber and cashew nuts.

— The visit of an official Indian delegation to the Beijing (China) to participate in the Dr. Kotnis memorial function has been called off. The decision was taken in protest against what the Government of India described as the "perverse" comments broadcast by New China News Agency on the participation of a dance troup from Arunachal Pradesh at the closing ceremony of Asian Games. The Government has taken the NCNA comment

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to be the official view of the Chinese authorities since the news agency is recognised as the official organ of the Chinese State Council. NCNA has stated that government of India has tried to exploit an international sports event to make a "discreditable" claim over a disputed territory.

December 12 — As many as 7,564 candidates have field their nominations for 578 State Assembly seats in three states (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tripura) going to the polls on January 5 next year. Though a clear picture will emerge only after scrutiny and withdrawal, the position is unlikely to change with multiplicity of Parties in the arena. A total of 3,901 candidates have filed their nominations for 294 seats from Andhra Pradesh as against 2,652 in the 1978 elections. In Karnataka 3,400 candidates have filed nominations for 224 seats. The number of nominations for the 60 member Tripura Assembly stands at 263. In Andhra Pradesh, besides the three major contending Parties, the Congress (I), the Telungu Dessam and the five Party (CPI-CPI (M), Janata, Lok Dal and RPI-K) alliance, a number of others Parties are also in the field. These are the BJP, Congress (S) Congress (J), Majlis-e-Itthedul Musliman, Muslim League, Sanjay Vichar Manch and three groups of Revolutionary Communist Parties. In Karnataka, besides the Congress (I) which has decided to contest all but one of the seats, other Parties in the fray are BJP (120), Janata (121), Karnataka Kranti Ranga (90), Muslim League (16), rival factions of the Communist Party (12), DMK, AIDMK, Congress (S) and Lok Dal. In Tripura the Parties are broadly arrayed in three combinations—the ruling CPI (M), Left Front, the Congress (I), Upajati Front and the Gana Front Comprising Janata Party, BJP and CPI (ML); a regional Party Amara Bangali has also put up candidates for all the 60 seats.

— Noted painter Abdul Aziz Almelkar, who brought the Indian folk lore into prominence died. in Pune following a heart attack. He was 63.

— S. Vasudevan emerged the new Champion defeating Jayakumar Royappa 6-1, 6-1 in a one sided men's single final of the National Tennis Championship held in Chandigarh.

— Seven persons, including four children were killed and eight others injured when a truck in which they were travelling turned turtle at Mangbari near Sakri in Dhulle district (Nasik).

13 — Curfew was clamped in four localities in Baroda at night

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after a group of young men went on a rampage on the main thoroughfares. The yough who came out in the streets were protasting against a reported Government move to transfer the city Police Commissioner Jaspal Singh. According to UNI, the police fired atleast two rounds in the Wadi area.

December 13 — Dr. George Jacob, eminent educationist and former University Grants Commission Chairman, died at Manganam, near Kottayam, following a brief illness. He was 73.

— Only nine percent of the entire industrial labour force of 11.17 lakhs in Bombay stayed away from work in response to the "bandh" call given by Datta Samant.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi addressed a mammoth public meeting at Cochin to mark the formal merger of the Congress (A) and Congress (I). She hailed this "big event" which, she felt, will strengthen the cause of democracy, unity and integrity of the country besides ushering in political stability and prosperity in the State. Earlier the Congress (A), led by A.K. Anthony, one time critic of Indira Gandhi, ceased to exist following its merger with the Congress (I). Speaking at the unity meeting, Anthony said, he and his followers have realised that at this critical juncture in the nation's history, only Indira Gandhi's leadership can safeguard its unity and integrity.

— Promising cine actor director, Bhaskar Choudhury, died of renal failure at Calcutta.

14 — After being withheld for eight days, the result of the by-election from the Dalsingsarai Assembly Constituency in Bihar was formally declared. The votes had been taken up for counting on December 6. The Congress (I) retained the seat through Vijay Kumar Choudhury.

— Deputy Speaker of Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, Yadvendra Singh, passed away at Lucknow medical college. He was 56.

— Gainda Singh, 95, a veteran freedom fighter, died after a brief illness at his native Daudhar village in Faridabad district.

— Illa Chand Joshi, a noted Hindi Literateur, died in Allahabad. He was 80. Mr. Joshi was known for introducing psychological problems in Hindi novels. He worked as the Editor of "Dharamyug", "Sangam", and "Sahityakar". He also served AIR as Hindi producer.

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December 14 A protocol recording the results of the second meeting of the working group on coal industry of the Inter-Governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on economic, scientific and technical cooperation was signed in New Delhi.

15 The Posts and Telegraphs department issued a special stamp in honour of Late Purushottam Das Tandon.

— The National Building Construction Corporation signed a contract with Libya for road construction in Southern Libya. The value of the contract, signed in Tripoli, is Rs. 18.85 crores.

— Police fired eight rounds as incidents of stoning, looting and arson continued in Baroda for the third day despite the army patrolling the affected areas. With two more deaths reported during the night, the death toll on the third day of violence in the city rises to 11.

— A major fire broke out in the busy Naraina industrial area (Delhi) razing a factory said to be manufacturing packing cases.

— The President has appointed Justice Madan Mohan Punchhi as a Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

16 The bandit Chief Bhura, who carried a reward of Rs. 4,000 on his head, was killed in an encounter with the police near Udaitpur village under Danahar police station. Bhura was wanted in more than three dozen cases of murders, dacoity and kidnapping.

— Governor of Himachal Pradesh, A.N. Banerji, on the advice of Chief Minister Ram Lall, announced a minor reshuffle of portfolios in the State Cabinet. As a result, the Transport portfolio has been given to Industries Minister Shiv Kumar, who also looks after Tourism and University Education. Chief Minister has taken over the additional portfolio of Youth Welfare and will be assisted by Chief Parliamentary Secretary Vijayendra Singh. Law Portfolio has been assigned to the Minister of State for Excise and Taxation, Rangila Ram Rao. Forest Minister, Devi Singh, will look after the Election partfolio. There was no change in the portfolios of other Ministers.

— The octogenarian freedom fighter and journalist, Manoranjan Guha, passed away at his residence in Santiniketan. An exponent of Gandhian ideology, Mr. Guha was an Editor of the weekly magazine "Vigil",

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founded by Acharya Kripalani and also served the Hindustan Standard in the capacity of its Editor for the Delhi edition.

December 16 — The President has appointed three new Judges for the Kerala High Court. The Judges are: Kochupillai Sukumaran, Krishnaswamy Sundra Paripoornan and Sivaraman Nair.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi stated in a message of sympathy to President Ali Abdullah Saleh of the Yemen Arab Repulic, that India is sending a medical team and relief materials for the victims of earthquake in North Yemen.

— Sardar Singh, Congress (I) MLA from Tikmagarh (Bhopal) died. He was 58.

— The Supreme Court by a two-to-one majority judgement, upheld the withdrawal of the criminal cases of forgery and corruption against Bihar Chief Minister Jagannath Mishra. Justice Bahrul Islam and Justice R.B. Mishra who constituted the majority, held that there is no prima facie case of forgery and misconduct against the Chief Minister in the Patna Urban Cooperative Bank case, according to the materials on record. The third Judge, Justice V.D. Tulzapurkar, in a dissenting judgement, maintained that the documentary evidence, the genuineness of which cannot be doubted, does make out a prima facie case sufficient to put Dr. Mishra on trial for two common law offences of criminal misconduct under section 75 (1) (1D) of the Prevention of Corruption Act and forgery under Section 466 of the Indian Penal Code without needing any further material to establish the same. The court dismissed the appeal of Sheonandan Paswan, Bihar Lok Dal MLA, against Patna High Court's order upholding the judgement of the Patna Special Judge permitting the withdrawal of cases.

— Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Naguyen Co Thach, arrived in New Delhi on a three day visit for talks with the Indian Government on developing bilateral relation. He called on President Zail Singh and Vice President M. Hidayatullah.

— West Germany has sanctioned two loans to India totalling Rs. 22.4 crores. Of these Rs. 12.4 crores would be as general commodity aid and Rs. 10 crores for capital goods according to a West German Embassy release.

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December 17 Charanjit Singh Virk, 54, a Congress (I) MLA from Punjab was killed when a Phagwara bound jeep in which he was travelling dashed against a bullockcart near Banga, 20 km from Phagwara.

— Fifteen passengers were killed and 13 injured when a Himachal Roadways bus plunged into a 165 metre deep ravine at Lehva village, 40 km from Mandi.

— The former Indian dimplomat, B. K. Nehru, was appointed on the United Nations Investment Committee by the General Assembly. His term for three years begins on January 1. Another Indian diplomat, Samarendranath Sen, was appointed by the Assembly on the U. N. Administrative Tribunal, also for a three year term. The Assembly took both the decisions without a vote.

— The pound has become costlier by five paisa following a downward revision of the rupee by 0.32 percent in relation to the pound announced by the Reserve Bank of India. The spot buying and selling rates are fixed as to give a new middle rate of Rs. 15.70.

18 An agreement for a drilling contract worth $ 31 million along with a supporting credit was signed in Mexico city for charter hire of an offshore jack-up rig for oil exploration in the Mahanadi basin. The agreement was signed by Oil India Limited, a public sector undertaking and the Mexican firm Protexa according to the spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry.

— India and Vietnam set up a joint Economic Commission to institutionalise their growing bilateral cooperation on a long term basis. An agrement to this effect was signed in New Delhi by Minister for External Affairs, P. V. Narasimha Rao and the visiting Vietnames Foreign Minister, Naguyen Co Thach. The agreement stipulates cooperation in the field of transport, communications, industry, textiles, geology and mineral exploration. India will also assist Vietnam in the field of agriculture, animal husbandry, industrial crops and food processing.

— The President has appointed six new Judges of the Bombay High Court. The Judges are: Justic Suryakant Vasudeo Puranik, Justice Ram Janardan Rao Deshpande, Justice Gazi Mohammad Mukibuddin, Justice Ganpati Mahadeora Khandekar, Justice Gustavo Filipe Couto and Justice Krishna Nauniral Chandhatri.

— S. P. Godrej, was sworn-in as the New Sheriff of Bombay'

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December 19 Australia defeated India 6-1 to win the Esanda World Hockey Championship held in Melbourne.

— Canada has banned the entry of the self styled "Khalistan" leader, Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan, who is also the Vice Chairman of the Indian Chapter of the London based World Council of Minorities. The rejection of Dr. Chauhan's request for entry was conveyed to him last week. India has been asking Canada to curb the activities of the protagonists of "Khalistan".

— Chief Minister of Kerala, Karunakaran, was unanimously elected leader of the unified legislature Party of the Congress (I) and the Congress (A). Ooman Chandy of the erstwhile Congress (A) was unanimously elected Deputy leader at the first meeting of the joint legislature Party held at the official residence of the Chief Minister.

— Jagannath Singh, 95, a former MLA and a freedom fighter died in his home village, Seria.

— Mauritius Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth, arrived in New Delhi on a private visit to India. He told newsmen that his Government wants India to replace South Africa as the Principal exporter of food Commodities for which his country depends largely on Pretoria. But he added, that it would be a gradual process and that in five years "we would have a long way in breaking off from South Africa".

— Mahendra Kumar Saha, noted freedom fighter and a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, died in Calcutta. He was 91.

— The nature and extent of Governmental intervention in the ownership and financial management of newspapers has split the second press Commission, seven-to-four. The majority, viewig the association of newspapers with other business to be harmful to the public interest, was all for compulsarily severing the ties. Opposing this opinion was the minority which believed that singling out news paper industry for separate and special treatment would only cause more harm than goon. The majority wanted the delinking because the influence of the present pattern of ownership was réflected to some extent in the news coverage, particularly about the working of public and private sectors.

— Popular stage and film artist, V. Ramanna Pantulu, died in Vijayawada, following heart attack. He was 62. Ramanna Pantulu had acted in several Telugu films.

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December 20 The Nehru Literacy Award for 1981 was presented to Chinubhai Bhatt of Gujarat by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Arjun Singh at the 35th all India Adult Education Conference at Mhow near Indore. The award has been instituted by the the Indian Adult Education Association to honour inividuals and Institutions for outstanding service to the nation in eradication of illiteracy and for promotion and development of adult education.

— The ruling Congress (I) won the Jadiya Assembly seat in Jamnagar district (Gujarat) from the Janata Party and lost the Limbdi seat in Surendranagar district (Gujrat) to BJP in the by-elections for the two Assembly Constituencies held yesterday. In Jadiya, Congress (I) candidate, Dayabhai Bhinani, defeated the BJP candidate, Govindbhai Solanki, by a margin of 2,148 seats in a nine cornered contest. In Limbdi, BJP candidate Jitubhai Rane defeated his nearest Congress (I) rival, Jagmal Maru, by a margin of 6,691 votes in a five cornered contest. With the outcome of results of the two by-elections, the Party wise position in the 182 member Assembly is Cogress (I) 138, Janata Party 17, BJP 12 and Independents 15 including dissident MLAs, who had resigned from Congress (I) under ihe leadership of Ratubhai Adani.

— UN General Assembly adopted an Indian proposal for a Global meet on the Namibian independence struggle. The draft resolution, introduced by Amitav Banerjee, was adopted by an over whelming 139-0 votes with the U.S.A. and seven other member States abstaining.

21 Enuga Reddy of India was named by the UN Secretary General Perez De Cuellar as Assistant Secretary General of Centre against Apartheid in the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs. The appointment will take effect on January 1, 1983.

— India and three other countries have been appointed members of a Consultative Committee on the voluntary fund for the United Nations Decade for Women. The appointments are for three years beginning January 1, 1983. Norway, Kenya and Jamaica are the other members.

— Nirmal Sinha of the CPI (M) was declared elected in the Lok Sabha from West Bengal's Mathurpur Parliamentary Constituency defeating his nearest rival, Gobinda Chandra Naskar by a margin of 55,476 votes in a triangular contest. He polled 2,54,758 votes as against Naskar's 1,99,282. The SUCI nominee Samir Naia securred 30,414 votes. The by-election was necessitated by the death of Mukunda Mandal, CPI (M).

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December 21 Switzerland will provide Rs. 18.71 crore worth grant assistance to India, under two agreements signed in New Delhi. Under the first agreement, Switzerland will give grant assistance worth Rs. 11.47 crore for the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Bombay and under the second agreement, Rs. 7.24 crore will be provided for the Institute of Rural Management, Anand (Gujarat).

— Vali Desai, freedom fighter and an associate of Mahatma Gandhi, died in New Delhi. He was 90. Desai was imprisoned for two years for writing "treasonable" articles as Editor and Publisher of Gandhiji's weekly, "The Young India". He was one of the 79 satyagrahis, who marched with Gandhiji to Dandi during the 1930 satyagraha.

22 Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, Niaz Ahmed Naik, arrived in New Delhi for talks with Indian officials on setting up an Indo-Pak Joint Commission as well as on drafts of a no-war pact and a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation. On 23rd December, at the first round of talks in New Delhi between Pakistani Foreign Secretary, Niaz Naik and Indian Foreign Secertary, M.K. Rasgotra, India and Pakistan decided that a Ministerial level Joint Commission should be set up to strengthen the understanding between the two countries for promoting mutual cooperation. They also specified the fields in which the Commission would engage itself. The areas for cooperation, which came within the orbit of the Joint Commission are economy, trade, industry, education, health, culture consular matters, tourism, travel information and science and technology. The Joint Commission may set up Sub-Commissions latter to tackle matters of detail in specific subjects. The Foreign Ministers of the two countries will meet in New Delhi in March 1983 to sign the agreement formally setting up the Commission of which they will be co-Chairman, on 24th December, the two day official level talks between India and Pakistan ended in New Delhi with the initialing of an agreement setting up a Joint Commission to promote economic and scientific cooperation and help strengthen "good neighbourly relations". The agreement, which comes into effect immediately, shall be in force for five years and shall be automatically renewed for a further five year period. The agreement is subject to ratification by the two Governments. For the first time in an agreement covering a Joint Commission, the document stipulated that the two sides would be committed to the principles of peaceful co-existence and emphasises the development of overall bilateral relations. The agreement says the Commission would meet once a year alternately in New Delhi and Islamabad and would be led by the

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Foreign Ministers of the two countries. It has a clause permitting both sides to modify it by mutual consent.

December 22 Mrs. Chandramohini Wanchoo, widow of late Mr. N. N. Wanchoo, former Governer of Kerala and Madhya Pradesh, died in New Delhi. She was 91.

23 A former MP and Bharatiya Janata Party Leader, Shri Chand Goel, 62, died, in Chandigarh, following a massive heart attack.

— India-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission made "good deal of progress" at the second day of deliberations at New Delhi. Official sourcess said that the Commission formed two small groups to "further discuss matters relating to working out modalities for the pre-feasibility study of the proposals of both the countries for augumentation of Ganga water flows during the lean season and also for sharing the Teesta river waters and dealing with the problems of common and border rivers. On 24th December, a joint press release was issued at the end of the 23rd meeting of Joint Rivers Commission (JRC). According to the joint press release, India and Bangladesh have decided to set up a Joint Committee of Experts to carry out the pre-feasibility studies of the schemes proposed by either sides for augumenting the dry season flow of the Ganga at Farakka. It added that the Committee would report in four to six weeks to JRC, which would hold its next meeting in Dhaka from Febuary 1-4, 1983.

— Justice Om Prakash, Additional Judge of the Himachal Pradesh High Court, has been appointed a Judge of that Court with effect from the date he assumed charge of his office. Karam Pal Singh Sandhu has been appointed as an Additional Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court for a period of two years.

— Names of twenty two books and their writers who have won the Sahitya Akademi awards, were announced. The books are : "Memare Dhara Tarowal Aru Dukhan Upanyasa", a novel in Assamese by Mamoni Raiason Goswami; "Amritasya Putree", a novel in Bengali by Kamla Das; "Qaidi", a novel in Dogri by Deshbandhu Dogra; "Nitan, the Last Labyrinth", a novel in English by Arun Joshi; "Lilero Dhal", poems in Gujrati by Prujakant Maniar; "Viklang Shradha Ka Daur", a satire in Hindi by Hari Shankar Parsai; "Vyshakha", a novel in Kanada by Chaduranga; "Natak Truche", a drama in Kashmiri by Motilal Kemmu; "Khabari", essays in Konkani by Laxmanrao Sardesai; "Marichika", a novel in Maithili by Lily Roy; "Payyankathakal", short storesi

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in Malayalam by V.K.N. Thiruvilamala; "Pistal Ama Kundallei Amad", short stories in Manipuri by E. Dinamani Singh; "Saundaryanubhav", a literary criticism in Marathi by Prabakhar Padhye; "Bisiryako Sansprite", essays in Nepali by M.M. Gurung; "Hasyarasar Natak" one act play in Oriya by Gopal Chhotrai; "Amar Katha, short stories in Punjabi by Gulzar Singh Sandhu; "Chasmadith Gawah", short stories in Rajasthani by Moolchand "Pranesh"; Visvabandhu", an epic in Sanskrit by P.K. Narayana Pillai; Muhinji-Hayatia-ja-Sona Ropa Warga" an autobiography in Sindhi by Popati Hiranandini; "Manikkodik Kalam", a literary history in Tamil by B. S. Ramaiya; "Swarna Kanalalu", short stories in Telugu by I. Saraswati Devi and "Zikr-o-Fikar", a literary criticism in Urdu by Gian Chand Jain. The awards in the form of a casket containing an inscribed copper plaque and a cheque for Rs. 5,000/- will be presented to the authors at a function to be held latter, the Akademi announced.

December 24 — The Assembly election in Tarikere Constituency in Chikmagalur district (Karnataka) was countermanded following the death of Congress (I) candidate H.R. Basavaraj on 23rd December.

— B. K. Singh, formerly the Chief Secretary, Andamans, has taken over as Deputy Election Commissioner.

— India and USSR signed in New Delhi a trade protocol for 1983, providing for a total turnover of Rs. 3,625 crores, as against Rs. 3,260 crores agreed in the trade plan for 1982. This represents a growth, of 11.2% in the two-way trade. According to the agreement, exports from India are expected to be of the order of Rs. 1,880 crores and imports from the USSR, to be Rs. 1,745 crores leaving a balance of Rs. 134.7 crores in India's favour.

25 — Dr. Sanaullah Jafari, a veteran freedom fighter died in Pratapagarh after a prolonged illness. He was 78.

— The election in the Madanapalli Assembly Constituency of Andhra Pradesh was countermanded following the death of an Independent candidate, S. Naga Seshagiri Rao.

— The newly formed Jayaprakash Vichar Manch announced five awards in memory of Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan. The awards carrying a cash prize of Rs. 30,000 each will be given for creative writing, investigative journalism, social leadership, social service and awakening of women.

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December 25 A vetern freedom fighter, Satyadeva Jha (108), died at his village home in Muzaffarpur district. He was imprisoned for several years during the non-cooperation movement.

26 At the first Stae level convention (Gujarat), the Congress (I) breakaway group led by former State Party President Ratubhai Adani, formed a new Political Party, Rashtriya Congress, to "re-establish the image and prestige of the Congress". The convention elected Ratubhai Adani as its President and empowered him to constitute a committee for framing the Constitution of the new Party and also to form the state, district and Taluka level bodies. The convention was attended by four MPs, seven out of nine MLAs who resigned from the Congress (I) on December 4 and about 3,000 workers.

26 Well known writer and journalist, Prakash Pandit, died in New Delhi. He was 58.

27 Assam agitators began their State wide six day "fresh" programme with a "Sanket Dhawani" by beating drums, blowing trumpets and other sound making instruments. People in groups also shouted slogans demanding an early solution to the aliens issue.

— India lost second cricket test against Pakistan by an innings. The match was played at Karachi.

— Mahendra Mohan Choudhury (74), former Governor of Punjab and former Chief Minister of Assam, died in Gauhati following a heart attack.

— Under two agreements signed in New Delhi, Norway will provide India with Rs. 7 crore as assistance for Integrated Child Development Services and Women's Employment projects. Under one agreement, assistance worth Rs. 5.72 crores will be provided for Integrated Child Development Services Scheme. The second involves assistance worth Rs. 1.29 crore for projects for Women's Employment. The agreements are made under the umbrella agreement for economic cooperation signed recently between Norway and India for the period 1983-86.

28 It was the coldest day of the decade, in the Capital (Delhi).

— Members of the Delhi University Students Union, (DUSU) resorted to a "Chakka Jam" and disrupted

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traffic in some parts of the city to protest against the continuing teachers strike in Delhi University.

December 28 Property worth Rs. 10. lakhs was destroyed in a fire in two ministrial houses in Simla.

— The second Indian Expedition team landed in Antarctica at a place about 10 km from the shores to begin a two-month scientific study of the continents geology and select a place for a permanent manned station to be established by 1985. The 28 member team led by Dr. V.K. Raina left Goa on November 30.

— Sira Rudraiah Rajasekhara Murthy and Maniyallappa Ramakrishna were appointed Judges of the Karnataka High Court.

29 The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research signed a memorandum of understanding with its Iraqi counterpart for cooperating in Science and Technology for the year 1983-84.

— Five senior military personnel were killed when an Air Force helicopter crashed at Kamery near Gangtok. The sources said those killed in the crash were an Army colonel and four Air Force officers, a Group Captain, a Wing Commander and two crew members. The helicopter was stated to be on a routine flight.

— Justice Samarendra Chandra Deb has been appointed Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court from January 1, 1983, according to a Presidential notification received by the State Government. Justice Deb, the seniormost Judge of the High Court will succeed Justice Sambhu Charan Ghose, who retires on December 31.

— Ladha Singh Bhandari, 82, veteran freedom fighter and journalist, died in Gurdaspur after a brief illness.

— The Madhya Pradesh Governor, B. D. Sharma, has appointed his Secretary, M.B. Malhotra, as the new Vice Chancellor of Sagar University. Mr. Malhotra, who is a retired IAS Officer, has no academic background.

30 Armed dacoits killed a police constable and decamped with Rs. 1.56 lakh from the State Bank of India branch at Iqbalgadh in Banaskantha district (Gujrat).

— Datta Dharmadhikari, film Director who dominated the Marathi cinema for over three decades, died. He was 72.

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December 30 Justice K. M. Dayal of the Allahabad High Court submitted resignation to the President in protest against the "supersession" by 13 Additional Judges, who were confirmed and administered oath of Office as permanent Judges of the High Court by Chief Justice Satish Chandra.

— The Posts and Telegraph department issued a set of two stamps to mark the fourth national philatic exhibition (INPEX 82) in New Delhi. The 50 paise stamp depicted a vintage composite rail coach comprising a mail service van in the middle with passenger section on either side. An early steam engine of Indian Railways is shown in silhouette. The multi coloured Rs. 2 stamp deficted the first Indian Postage stamp, the blue half anna, 1854 lithograph bearing Queen Victoria's effigy and the three and a half anna stamp carrying India's national flag. The exhibition was inaugurated by the Minister for Communications, A. P. Sharma. President Zail Singh gave away prizes on January 5, 1983.

31 Sujan Singh, a Rajya Sabha member from Haryana, announced the resignation of his membership and retirement from politics. In a signed statement he said, "I am no longer a member of any Political Party nor do I intend to join any Political Party in future".

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